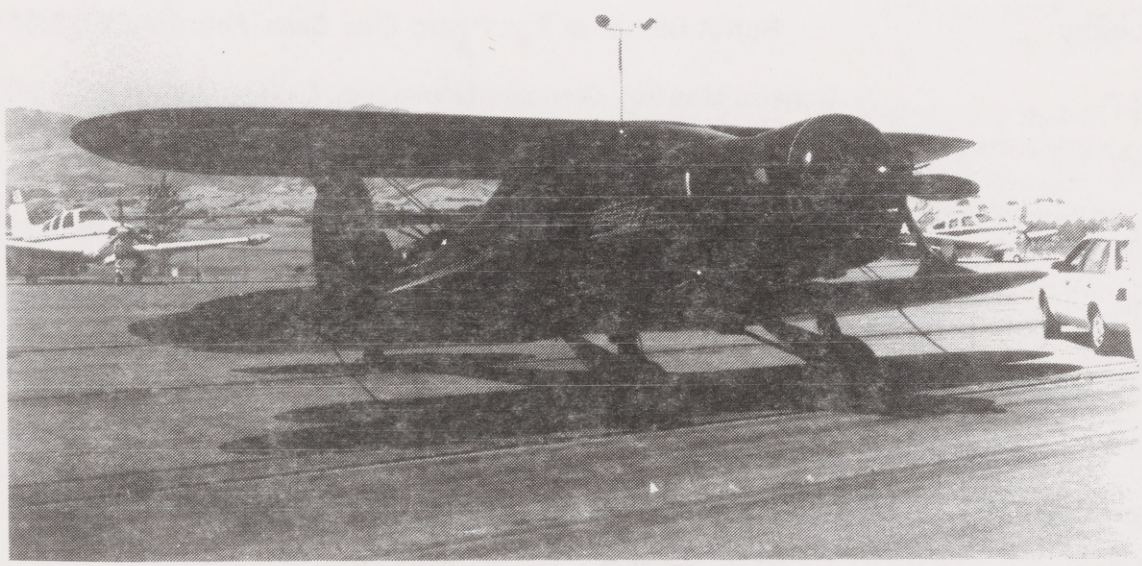
VAA Newsletter

Vintage Aeroplane Association Of California, Inc.

President Connie Clark 310/835-2562

Editor Bill Mallory 818/242-6394

FEBRUARY 1997



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Vice President	Don Armstrong	818/241-2425
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Treasurer/Membership	Bill Mallory 410 E. Fairivew #4 Glendale, CA 91207	818/242-6394
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Activities Committee	Connie Clark Jimmy Green Bill Mallory	
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1997 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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February	**Buffet Dinner at San Pedro Elks Club, February 23, 5:00 p.m.**
March	General Meeting, Glendale Community College, March 21, 7:30 p.m.
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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

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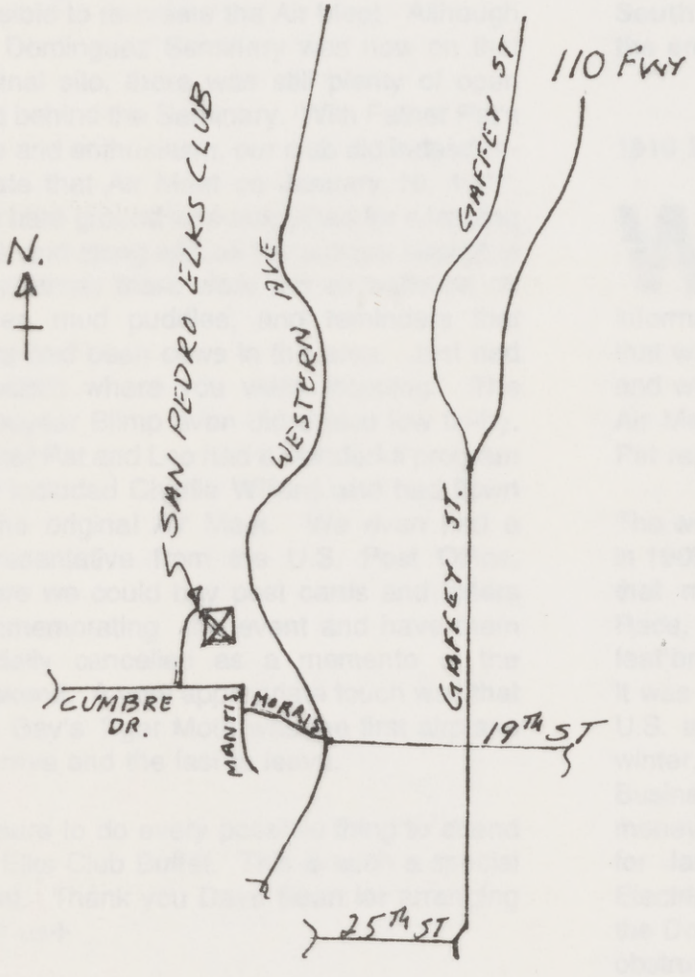
FEBRUARY BUFFET AT SAN PEDRO ELKS CLUB

Everyone who has attended the Elks Club Buffet has certainly enjoyed it. It has been cold and windy in the as only made the view acular. Plus, the food is band has always been our dancing shoes. The ebruary 23, at 5:00 p.m. 50 per person, and you l. However, we do need bruary 17 so we can let ow how many tables to SVP to Connie Clark at e hope to see all you ers for this event! See for location→



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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Father Pat McPolin of the Domiguez Seminary in Rancho Dominguez got the year off to a great start as our January speaker. He is so very enthusiastic, knows his subject matter better than anyone, and besides all that, he wore his leather flying jacket and helmet and goggles as he spoke! A good crowd was there to greet him and enjoy his very interesting talk. His subject was the 1910 Dominguez Air Meet, and how it happened to occur in California. It was the first Air Meet held in the United States.

In 1976, Leo Gay wondered if it would be possible to re-create the Air Meet. Although the Dominguez Seminary was now on that original site, there was still plenty of open land behind the Seminary. With Father Pat's help and enthusiasm, our club did indeed re-create that Air Meet on January 16, 1977. The bare ground was smoothed for a landing field, and along with all the antique aircraft in attendance, there were hot air balloons on tether, mud puddles, and reminders that there had been cows in the area. Just had to watch where you were stepping. The Goodyear Blimp even did a nice low fly-by. Father Pat and Leo had a wonderful program that included Charlie Willard who had flown at the original Air Meet. We even had a representative from the U.S. Post Office, where we could buy post cards and letters commemorating the event and have them officially cancelled as a memento of the weekend. A very appropriate touch was that Leo Gay's Tiger Moth was the first airplane to arrive and the last to leave.

Be sure to do every possible thing to attend the Elks Club Buffet. This is such a special event. Thank you Dave Bean for arranging it for us✈

FEBRUARY BUFFET AT SAN PEDRO ELKS CLUB

Everyone who has attended the Elks Club Buffet has certainly enjoyed it. It has been cold and windy in the past, but that has only made the view much more spectacular. Plus, the food is good, and the band has always been terrific, so wear your dancing shoes. The date is Sunday, February 23, at 5:00 p.m. The price is $12.50 per person, and you may pay on arrival. However, we do need your RSVP by February 17 so we can let the Elks Club know how many tables to set up for us. RSVP to Connie Clark at 310/835-2562. We hope to see all you South Bay members for this event! See the enclosed map for location✈

1910 DOMINGUEZ AIR MEET

We wish everyone could have heard Father Pat tell us about the Dominguez Air Meet. The information he gave us is all in a small book that was compiled from pictures, mementos and written information from the time of the Air Meet. As good as the book is, Father Pat really made the event come alive.

The worlds first Air Meet was held in France in 1909. Glenn Curtiss was in attendance at that meet, and won the Gordon Bennet Race, flying at a speed of 46.5 MPH. This feat brought the record to the United States. It was felt that a meet should be held in the U.S. as soon as possible, and approaching winter, California was the place to hold it. Businessmen from Los Angeles put up money to plan the event, which was planned for January 10 to 20, 1910. The Pacific Electric Railway had a Red Car which ran to the Dominguez area, with open land clear of obstructions for these untested aircraft. Grandstands were built to hold 30,000 people. At the end of the event, 176,000 people had paid to see the Air Meet.

Father Pat told us that many bets had been made as to whether these aircraft would really fly. Although there was aircraft activity on the East Coast at this time, no one had yet seen an airplane fly in California. Glenn Curtiss made the first flight on the first day of the event, and that's when money began changing hands. As the event continued, several records were set, including an endurance record by Glenn Curtiss. He also won the speed record at 61 MPH and stated that "he thinks we've reached the outer limits in our speed". Charlie Willard also flew at Dominguez, having learned to fly from Curtiss in 1909. Several of us probably remember Charley Willard, as he was quite active in the Early Birds. I remember a statement Charley made on his 90th Birthday. He said "You 50 and 60 year old youngsters out there, you are 30 and 40 years younger than I am". Telling us not to think about age, but to enjoy our lives, as he did.

Father Pat had a printed sheet of instructions from the Curtiss Flying School for their Pilot training. After reading these instructions to us, he stated that since everyone at the meeting had heard them, we were now all qualified to fly.

Father Pat also told us of someone who was trying to stop the Air Meet. He tried to serve papers in New York and Chicago, but missed connections due to the transportation problems of the day. He finally gave them to a Judge in Los Angeles to serve, but the Judge wanted to see the Air Meet so he pocketed them until after the meet was over.

This may not follow the book exactly, but it was much more fun. Thank you for a fun evening, Father Pat.

For anyone interested in the booklet on the 1910 Dominguez Air Meet, some will be available at the March meeting for $1.00 each✈ (Connie Clark)

TANTALIZING TAKEOFFS

There has been an Aircraft Calendar on the market for three years now that I should have mentioned earlier, although many of you probably already know about it. It is called Tantalizing Takeoffs, and features antique aircraft and older Military aircraft from the Western Museum of Flight at Hawthorne Airport and Chino. The Tantalizing part is the WWII type Pin-ups in front of each aircraft. The Cover photo and also the month of August, features Gene Gast's Stearman. The Pin-up is a Jane Russell look alike as she looked in the Howard Hughes film, "The Outlaw". Also, from Torrance is Ralph Baxter's Waco with a lovely model in a misty bubble bath. You fellows must have enjoyed the photo sessions. The big red Waco from Great American Flights at Hawthorne Airport is featured for February, and also included is John Culver's SNJ and Pat Carey's AT-11. Both John and Pat are involved with the Hawthorne Air Faire. The Confederate Air Force's Bearcat from Camarillo Airport is in there too. It is a special calendar with aircraft belonging to people we know, and if you haven't seen it, it's not too late to order one at 800/944-1327. The calendar is $11.95 and $4.50 shipping. Or you can get it at Aviation Books on PCH in Torrance. Or most likely at one of you favorite Aircraft Stores✈ (Connie Clark)

FROM THE EDITOR

I also want to thank Father Pat for a great evening. If you are in the area of the Dominguez Seminary stop in at the Dominguez Adobe and tour the museum. I know you will find it interesting. It's open Tuesdays and Wednesdays 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. and the second and third Sundays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

I received from Jim and Kay Fossleman, an article from the January issue of Pacific Flyer in which they debate the merits of the

Sikorsky Skycrane vs. the Sooper Scooper. If you get a chance pick up an issue and read the article, quite interesting. Thank you Jim and Kay.

Speaking of the Super Scooper. I received a nice letter from Alain Dominique (the Super Scooper Tech Rep). He wished us all well, thanked us for having him speak and tells us he is on his way to Croatia. It seems that they have purchased two of the Scoopers. They want to use them primarily on the Adriatic Coast to protect the forest. They hope to build the tourist trade back to what it was before the war, and forest fires along the coast are a problem for them and the tourist trade. He will be there six months. He has promised that if he comes back to LA in the fall, he will give tours and talk again if we want him to.

Also, the US Post Office is issuing some aviation stamps this year. The first one will be Classic American Aircraft. This will be a pane of twenty, thirty-two cent stamps, twenty designs. I have seen pictures of this one and it is a beauty. The next one issued will be Department of the Air Force (in honor of it's fifty year anniversary). A pane of twenty, one design. The last is Supersonic Flight. This features the X-15, a pane of twenty, one design. The dates of issue are: Classic Aircraft, July 20; Air Force, September 18; Supersonic Flight, October 14. These (especially the Classic Aircraft) make beautiful, lasting gifts if they are placed in a frame, really classy.

I received a nice note from member Doug Kelley who lives in Derwood, MD. He has recently completed a Kit Fox Speedster that is a Mr. Mulligan look-alike. He sent a picture that I will run in a later issue.

I am really pleased with the number of dues that have been paid. Connie and I are writing letters to those members that have been behind for some time. We hate to lose members because of a dues oversight. But as I said at the last meeting, we just can't continue to support those that don't pay. The cost of the newsletter alone almost eats up the annual dues for each member.

If you know of someone that might be interested in the VAA invite them to come to a meeting or social event. If you need to know how to recruit members talk to Don Armstrong our champion recruiter.

Don't forget the Elks Club Buffet on Sunday, February 23. Thanks Dave Bean for arranging it✈

COMING EVENTS

Our speaker at the March General Meeting will be one you will not want to miss. He flew with the Hungarian Air Force in WWII. More in the next newsletter but I assure you, you don't want to miss his talk✈

COVER PHOTO

The photo on the cover of this issue, and for some newsletters to come were provided by John and Virginia Clark. They were taken at Wings and Wheels 96. The format is large, the pictures are of excellent quality and there are a lot of them. I am only going to print a selected few. Thank you John and Virginia for the wonderful photos. I apologize for them not being in the vivid colors of the originals. The big red Staggerwing on this cover is simply beautiful✈

92101-1636 27

Mrs. Maggie Davis Life
2001 Pan American Plaza
Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101

Dated Material

William L. Mallory
410 E. Fairview #4
Glendale, CA 91207

Vintage Aeroplane Association Of California

SAN PEDRO ELKS CLUB BUFFET
FEBRUARY 23, 5:00 P.M.

VAA Newsletter

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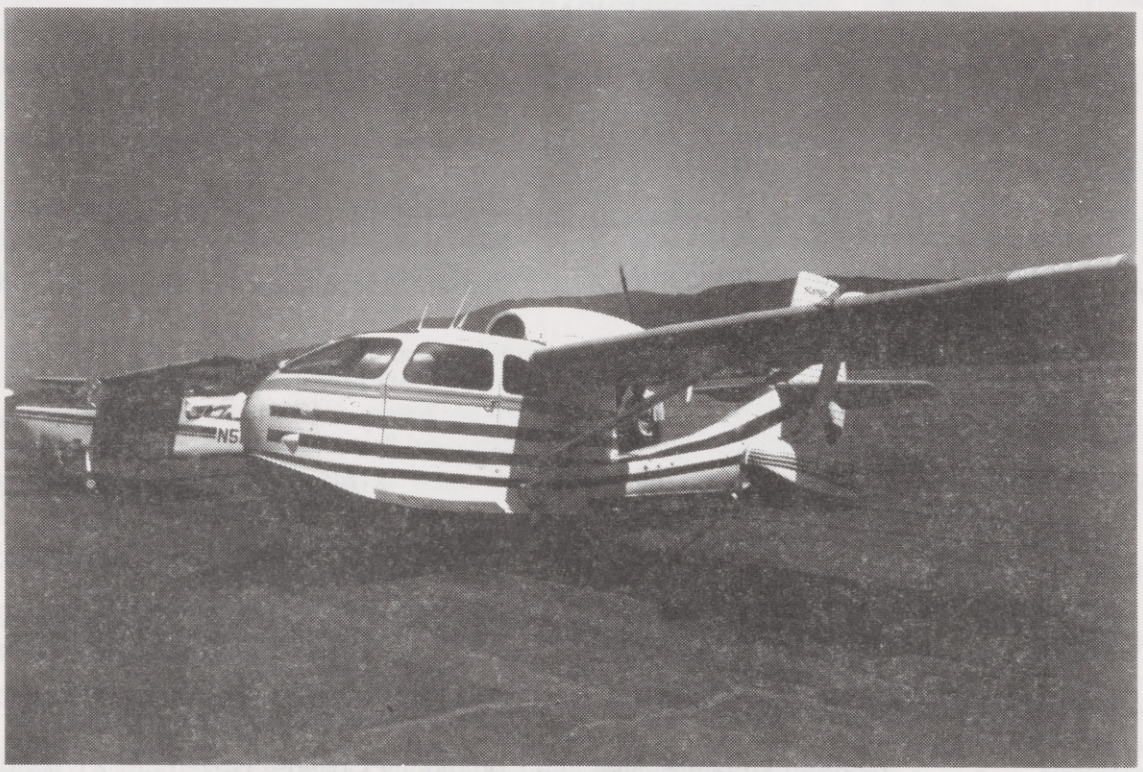

John & Virgina Clark, Wings and Wheels 96

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June	Pot Luck at the Fosselman's.
July	Wings & Wheels, July 11, 12, 13
August	Pot Luck at Ceci Stratford's.
September	General Meeting, Glendale Community College, September 19, 7:30 p.m.
October	2nd Annual Weenie Roast, Pat Quinn and Dave Watson, Santa Paula, October 5.
November	General Meeting, Glendale Community College, November 21, 7:30 p.m.
December	Christmas Party, Proud Bird Restaurant, December 6, 6:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Once more, with thanks to Dave Bean, we have had another delightful evening at the San Pedro Elks Club. The food and the band were as good as ever. It seems that since I last saw the "Macarena" being danced it has gotten much more creative. Much waving of arms around, but not exactly in the original order. At least by several of the dancers. Still looked like fun however. And when the band Played "YMCA" guests at one long table were all doing the arm movements while sitting at their table. Everyone had a good time.

The view, while still beautiful was not as clear as we have seen in the past. The sea of lights was as gorgeous as ever, but you couldn't see the snow capped mountains or downtown LA this year. Which reminds me that the Indians called this area the "Bay of Smokes." And an article in the book on the Dominguez Air Meet written in 1910 told of a balloon ride and of Los Angeles being obscured by a brownish film of smoke! Has it ever been different here?

The evening was a most enjoyable get-together with good friends. So glad so many of you could make it. Always good to see everyone.

Several of us have already met our Speaker for the month as he was a guest at our January meeting. I'm sure he will be a most interesting speaker. Try not to miss this one✈

MICHAEL KARATSONYI TO SPEAK AT MARCH GENERAL MEETING

We are fortunate to be able to hear Michael Karatsonyi, a former Me 109 pilot with the Royal Hungarian Air Force in WWII. Those of us that have talked with him have been thrilled and awed by his tales and experiences. Please try and make this meeting. Remember, March 21, 7:30 P.M. at Glendale College✈

CORRECTION ON THE DOMINGUEZ AIR MEET

When writing about the re-creation of the 1910 Dominguez Air Meet held in 1977, I stated that the Dominguez Seminary was now on that property. That statement came from being told that the re-creation was on the same property as the original Air Meet. Well, it was indeed, but there was a lot more of that property in 1910. The Dominguez Seminary building was the home of the Dominguez family in 1910, and I'm sure the airfield was not as close to that home as it was in 1977. At the re-creation, the aircraft in the landing pattern were coming in low over the roof of the Dominguez Seminary. I especially remember Don Noonan in his Tiger Moth coming in over that roof top so continually. And also Ed Clark flying the J-1 Standard that had been in the movie, "The Great Waldo Pepper." The Standard had no brakes, and it was fascinating to watch the guys grab hold of the hand holds in the wing and hang on so that the airplane could turn around.

I was also reminded that I didn't mention that Ed Clark was the pilot of Leo Gay's Tiger Moth, which made he and Leo the first ones to arrive and the last ones to leave✈ (Connie Clark)

LEO GAY AND THE EDWARDS AFB CRASH

The following was submitted by Ron Kramer. Ron has given me a lot of information on Leo that we will more than likely use in a Leo Gay special just prior to Wings and Wheels. Thanks for this Ron.

Sunday morning, May 21, 1967, I was on downwind setting up for a low fly-by at the Edwards AFB air show. Flying Leo Gay's Tiger Moth was always lots of fun, but today was different.

Coming abeam of the spectator stands my front seat passenger, a USAF major, waved my attention towards a fire burning on the parking ramp. Since "the show must go on" I flew the pre-arranged low fly-by. As we went by, I could see enough of the burning plane to know it was Darrel Hirsch's Ryan PT-22.

Since my passenger was the air show officer-in-charge, he obviously wanted to come down right away. Through lots of hand waving on his part and lots of quarrying by gossport tube on my part, we finally landed on the parking ramp near a hangar so the major could get to a phone.

Things were pretty much in turmoil when I got to the parking area. Many people were crying, others were aimlessly running here and there. I still had no details as to what had happened, causes, injuries, etc. So I went looking for Leo.

I found Leo standing by himself, a little dazed-looking, and reeking from smoke and fire retardant foam. He looked a mess. But as usual, his mind was clear. He explained what happened, and that the fire truck foam pressure forced him away from the flaming wreckage.

I had previously signed-off Leo for a solo cross-country back to Santa Paula, but based on his upset condition, I offered to fly the Moth back and he could go directly home and lie down. He would have none of that and said "you fly the plane and I'll sit up front, if I don't fly now, I don't think I ever will again." Those of you that knew Leo well know that he never really liked to fly. He liked to restore old cars and planes, but not necessarily fly the planes. So considering what he had just been through, his insistence on flying back to Santa Paula took some guts. So off we went to Santa Paula. Leo just sat motionless the whole flight back, except for an occasional nod when I asked if he was alright.

A few weeks later after talking to many eye-witnesses. I learned what Leo had actually done. As the inverted PT-22 came to rest and caught fire, Leo immediately ran to the burning plane to help its two occupants. Everyone else was heading the other way fearing an explosion. Leo's example changed a few of the retreater's minds and they turned back to help. Meanwhile, Leo crawled under the overturned cockpits to release the seatbelt/shoulder harnesses, only to burn his hands. Unable to release the occupants, he raced to the tail and lifted the fuselage to get the plane's weight off the unconscious pilot's head. Incidentally, lifting the fuselage took amazing strength. It was at this point that the fire trucks arrived. As they put foam on the fire, it forced the fire back towards Leo at the tail of the plane. Leo remembered little of this episode, and when I showed him photos of his actions he just shrugged as if it was no big deal. Actually, I think he deserved a medal for what he did, but I think none ever came.

Those of us that were privileged to know Leo Gay saw him a quiet, very modest, self-assured man. Leo never said it, but I'm sure he got what he wanted in the aftermath of the Edwards AFB crash; he saw the man he helped save, Darrel Hirsch, make a full recovery ✈

FROM THE EDITOR

PILOT Linda Finch and a navigator are scheduled to depart Oakland on March 17 in a restored Lockheed Model 10E on a three month flight intended to closely replicate Amerlia Earhart's 1937 attempt to circumnavigate the Earth at the equator.

The 24,557 mile journey will span five continents and require 30 stops in 20 countries. The Model 10E was restored by Finch and a crew of experts and is similar to the aircraft flown by Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan. Finch will use four navigators during the flight, with each one assigned a specific segment. The aircraft is powered by two Pratt and Whitney R1340 engines of 550 hp each.

Pratt and Whitney has contributed about $4 million to the World Flight project, including engines having serial numbers as those installed on Earhart's Lockheed. The 1997 "World Flight" attempt can be followed in real time by accessing the Website at http://worldflight.org/youcansoar.

I think this is exciting but how close can it be to the real attempt? Four navigators probably using GPS!! Also, we think we know what went wrong on the original flight. Surely they will avoid the same mistakes. I am not trying to take anything away from this attempt but I would much rather see Pratt and Whitney or some other large company put this kind of money in to a flight like the one Dave Davidson tried. Anyway, don't beat me up too much on this.

The American Air Museum in Britain is scheduled to be dedicated on August 1. This Museum is the culmination of a dream of General Doolittle. Finally, after many years of fund raising the building is complete, the aircraft are inside, and just the final dressings have to be finished. By the way, the central aircraft in this building is a Boeing B-52. The American Air Museum in Britain was built to honor the airmen of WWII and all of the airmen after. It is located at Duxford Airfield. All Founding Members have been invited to attend the dedication on August 1. I am planning to attend and I'll bet Keith Smith is going also. I hope to bring you pictures and other mementos from this great museum.

Seems like the "in" thing now are aviation display plates. Now the Hamilton Collection is offering a plate of "Big Beautiful Doll". This is another of the series of Great Fighter Planes of World War II. The Franklin Mint has also issued a series of plates "Heroes of the Skys", honoring the Battle of Britain pilots. I have some of both series, and they are really well done and worth collecting.

Well, Cessna is in production with the 172 and 206. How many folks do we know that will pay around $140,000 for a new Cessna 172? The 172 is basically the same as built for years, except for a de-rated fuel-injected 180 hp engine and a modular instrument panel. Cessna finally got wise and is putting the landing light back in the leading edge of the wing. As I see it, this is going to bring the price of existing 172's and 206's up.

The dues are coming in well and most have paid for the current year. I still get notes and calls asking the price. Remember, $10.00 per couple, per year. Make your checks out to VAA, not to me.

As promised, I am putting the final VAA Member Roster together, and will have them ready by the General Meeting. For those that have sent an envelope, I will have them in the mail to you in a few weeks✈

COMING EVENTS

Our April event will be another one of those great social events at Gabrielle Bresnik's on April 20. More on this in the next newsletter✈

BADGES

Badges are available from:

Dick Beagle
1417 N. Tower
Santa Ana, CA 92706

The price, a modest $5.00 each.

92101+1635 01

Mrs. Maggie Davis Life
2001 Pan American Plaza
Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101

Dated Material

William L. Mallory
410 E. Fairview #4
Glendale, CA 91207

Vintage Aeroplane Association Of California, Inc.

GENERAL MEETING
GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MARCH 21, 7:30 P.M.

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Photo. John and Virginia Clark, Wings and Wheels '96'

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I find it difficult to put into words the impact that Michael Karatsonye, our March speaker had on the group. Michael flew in the Royal Hungarian Air Force in WW II. He kept us on the edge of our seats with his talk. He began innocently enough, giving us some history of Hungary and telling us how he got into the military. But as he told us of his experiences flying over Hungary, meeting the Allies with out enough pilots or aircraft, and knowing that you were so very outnumbered,it was quite riveting. He pointed out that everything up there had guns! Also, the Hungarians were losing thirty to fifty percent of their aircraft on each air battle. Out of necessity, their tactics were to hit and run — don't stick around.

Michael was eventually shot down and said that luck, luck, and more luck was with him. Each separate happening all came together to save his life — so incredible to hear about. After the war, he was one of only three survivors from his Squadron. He stated that he was very glad the U.S. won the war.

Small World Department — Although Michael mostly flew the ME 109, he also flew an Italian aircraft that Sture Folkeson was familiar with. This aircraft used Castor Oil and Michael said that fifty-six years later he can still remember that smell. Also, Mel Heflinger had read a book that may have been about the air battle in which Michael's buddy was shot down. Many of the details seemed the same.

We very much enjoyed listening to Michael and thank him very much for sharing his experiences with us.

Hope all of you are planning to attend our Pot Luck on the 20th. Remember to give Gabrielle a call, and we'll see you there✈

APRIL POT LUCK AT GABRIELLE BRESNICK'S

Our Pot Luck this month will be held at Gabrielle Bresnick's. We would like to thank her for inviting us once again, and if you've been there before, you know what a fun time this will be. After enjoying all the food on her nice patio, we will go indoors to see a classic movie in her theater/living room. The date is Sunday, April 20th at 3:00 pm. (Note the time change). Gabrielle is requesting Appetizers, Main Dishes, Salads, and Desserts. Please give her a call at 310/454-1825, and if you need to leave her a message, tell her what you would like to bring and also your telephone number in case she needs to make any adjustments in what everyone is bringing. Her address is 16843 Sunset Blvd., Pacific Palisades✈

WINGS AND WHEELS

Plans are coming along nicely for our Santa Ynez get together on July 11, 12, and 13. If you haven't made your Motel reservations yet, the following are a few phone numbers for Motels in the area.

King Frederic 805/688-5515 (Solvang)
Royal Copenhagen 805/624-660 (Solvang)
Sanja Cota 805/688-5525 (Santa Ynez)
Andersons (Split Pea) 805/688-3216 (Buelton). This is a special rate to VAA members of $56.00 per night for two nights, $66.00 for one night. You must reserve before June 27 to receive this rate and tell then you are with VAA.

We can rent cars again this year at Alpha Car Rental, which is a part of the Santa Ynez Air Center and is located on the Santa Ynez Airport. To reserve a car, call Fran or Sharon at 805/688-2574 or 800/293-2437.

We will include a reservation for Wings and Wheels in the next letter✈ (Connie Clark)

MECHANICS CLASS FOR PILOTS

This is a class that Glendale College has held in the past, and our own Bill Mallory taught it. Now there is a possibility that the College will hold such a class again this Fall Semester, and it will require 15 people minimum, to keep the class open.

Names were taken of those interested in the class at our last meeting and forwarded to Ceci Stratford. If you didn't sign on that list, and you are interested, give Ceci a call at 818/842-0005. She will try to get enough people for the class and will let you know further details✈ (Connie Clark)

CARMEL VALLEY VINTAGE AIRFIELD OPEN HOUSE

Members Lars and Barbara de Jounge encourage members to fly into Carmel Valley Vintage Airfield the first Sunday of every month. The $10.00 landing fee is waived on those days for those vintage airplanes 1947 and older. There are 14 eating establishments one short block away, along the length of the field. Come lunch with the bunch. These "Open houses" qualify as a show for your tax exemption. Any questions call Lars or Barbara at 408/659-0860✈ (Lars de Jounge)

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:

Ron and Sherry Schroelder fromTorrance. They tell me Ed Cox has talked with them about Wings and Wheels for years, and of the good time had by all so they joined. Ron and Sherry fly a Long Eze that they built. Welcome to our little group and we hope to see you at the functions.

Al and Tynee Vidal from Burbank. They identify themselves as "Aerophiles". I first met Al and Tynee when we were working on a museum project. Member Don Armstrong recruited Al and Tynee. We welcome you and hope you can participate in the activities.

Fred King is a former pilot in WWII. He was a speaker at one of our meetings last year. Fred is a great guy and I know all will enjoy talking with him. He lives in Temple City. Our champion recruiter (Don Armstrong) also recruited Fred. Fred, we welcome you and hope you also can participate in our events✈

FROM THE EDITOR

I was chastised at the February meeting for not putting "Photo Credit" on the cover photo of the March letter. This was one of the pictures taken by John and Virginia Clark at Santa Ynez '96'. I do promise and swear I will always put a photo credit on in the future.

In one of the journals I get every month, there is an article about the early air races, the Bendix, Thompson, and Cleveland Races in particular.

I remember growing up in Van Nuys right at the airport (the runway ended just short of our property in those days), and of watching the beginning of the Bendix Race. That was really exciting, and to a young boy, something that would continue for all time. I am sure that these events led many of us into aviation as a career. In fact today I was at my job at the Van Nuys airport when a Sea Fury made a high speed low pass. It brought back those old memories, just as the occasional War Bird flying in and out of the airport does.

Did you read the article in time magazine about Mary Schiavo? She really lambasted the FAA for their lack of inspection and supervision of the smaller carriers like Valu-Jet. I thought it to be a good interview and have purchased her book "Flying Blind, Flying Safe". Airline officials don't think her tone will cause much ruffling of the feathers of the flying public, but it sure will make people take a good look at the FAA and how it goes about business.

In the April issue of Aeroplane, member Alan Buchner's beautifully restored 1932 Waco QDC-2 is shown in flight over what looks like the San Jouquin Valley. What a spectacular photo. Also, in this issue they are starting an ongoing series on Women in Aviation. Pick up a copy if you can. This is a British publication so it is not available at all book stands.

Member Phil Brown who lives on Adelanto Airport sent me a picture of his 1933 restored Waco UIC. This particular airplane was in the air at Pearl Harbor, December 7. Phil tells us they have cross runways 25-07 and 34-16. 25-07 is 100 feet wide and 4,300 feet long. I will run a picture of Phil's Waco in a future issue, it is really a beauty.

Connie forgot to mention that Michael Karatsonye donated three videos at the March meeting, these were raffled off. Thank you Michael.

In the March Newsletter I told you I would have current rosters at the general meeting. Guess what, I forgot them. I will have them at the next meeting for sure, and am putting them in the mail to those that sent me a SASE. Sorry I forgot.

The dues are coming in really well, and we don't have many delinquent now. Remember, the date of your expiration is on your mailing label on the letter. Also, just $10.00 for a full year.

Remember to look at the Calendar of Events in the letter. The current event will be in bold print✈

COMING EVENTS

We will have an interesting speaker at our May meeting. I know you will all enjoy him. Remember, May 16, at 7:30 p.m. Also, as Connie mentioned we are working on Wings and Wheels and the registration form along with other information will be in the May letter✈

BADGES

Badges are available from:

Dick Beagle
1417 N. Tower
Santa Ana, CA 92706

The price is $5.00 each. Remember if you come to a meeting without a badge, the Sergeant -at-Arms will surely get you and impose a hefty fine✈

AIRSHOWS AND EVENTS

APRIL 12-13	Falcon Field Airshow, Mesa, AZ
13	Ercoupe Owners Club Fly-In Castle AFB
17-20	IAC Chap. 36 Minifest Aerobatics Contest, Borrego Springs, CA
18-20	Stearman Fly-In, Casa Grande, AZ
24-27	LAAC Gold Cup Aerobatics Contest, So-Cal Int'l Airport, Victorville, CA
25-27	MCAS El Toro Airshow
26-27	Warbirds in Action Airshow, Minter Field, Shafter, CA

92101+1636 01

Mrs. Maggie Davis Life
2001 Pan American Plaza
Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101

Dated Material

William L. Mallory
410 E. Fairview #4
Glendale, CA 91207

Vintage Aeroplane Association Of California Inc.

P6

POT LUCK AT GABRIELLE BRESNICKS
APRIL 20, 3:00 P.M.

VAA Newsletter

Vintage Aeroplane Association Of California, Inc.

President Connie Clark 310/835-2562

Editor Bill Mallory 818/242-6394

MAY 1997

Photo. John and Virginia Clark, Wings and Wheels '96'

VAAC OFFICERS FOR 1997

President	Connie Clark	310/835-2562
Vice President	Don Armstrong	818/241-2425
Secretary	Elaine Forker	818/343-4478
Treasurer/Membership	Bill Mallory 410 E. Fairivew #4 Glendale, CA 91207	818/242-6394
Sergeant-at-Arms	Ceci Stratford	818/842-0005
Activities Committee	Connie Clark Jimmy Green Bill Mallory	
Newsletter Editor	Bill Mallory	
Cookie Chair	Don Armstrong	
Historians	Jim & Kay Fosselman	818/284-8642

1997 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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February	Buffet Dinner at San Pedro Elks Club, February 23, 5:00 p.m.
March	General Meeting, Glendale Community College, March 21, 7:30 p.m.
April	Pot Luck at Gabrielle Bresnick's, April 20, 3:00 p.m.
May	**General Meeting, Glendale Community College, May 16, 7:30 p.m.**
June	Pot Luck at the Fosselman's, June 22, 4:30 p.m.
July	Wings & Wheels, July 11, 12, 13
August	Pot Luck at Ceci Stratford's
September	General Meeting, Glendale Community College, September 19, 7:30 p.m.
October	
November	General Meeting, Glendale Community College, November 21, 7:30 p.m.
December	Christmas Party, Proud Bird Restaurant, December 6, 6:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Such a nostalgic evening. A 1945 movie with Spencer Tracy and Kathryn Hepburn, "Without Love". Who remembered what a tiny waistline Kathryn had then, and she was so beautiful. Spencer made a fine sleep-walking Scientist. This was of course at our April Pot Luck at Gabrielle Bresnik's lovely home. Before the movie, we had a delicious meal on the patio, with lots of good food from the very good cooks in our group. The honey-baked ham was a winner, as well as the huge bowl of strawberries. Plus lots of other yummy dishes. Gabrielle played a tape of 1940's music for our enjoyment.

It was good to see several members that we don't see too often, and the "hanger flying" was fun as usual. We also saw Gabrielle's latest dress for the Victorian Balls that she attends. It is beautiful Gabrielle, you are so talented.

Dessert was served after the movie, and what a tempting array it was. Thank you Gabrielle, for such an enjoyable evening✈

FIRE DEPARTMENT PILOT TO SPEAK AT MAY GENERAL MEETING

Once again through the efforts of Don Armstrong we will have another exciting speaker. Our guest will be Vance Colvig, a County Fire Department helicopter pilot. This should be very entertaining as well as educational. For those of you that heard Alain from the "Super Scooper" group talk, you should be able to get another perspective In aerial fire fighting.

Don't forget, Friday, May 16 at 7:30 pm at Glendale Community College. Thanks Don for getting these speakers for us✈

WINGS AND WHEELS

You will be seeing a lot of information on the Third Annual Leo Gay Memorial Wings and Wheels event. We are enclosing in this issue of the letter an application form for Santa Ynez. Just be sure and fill it out and follow the instructions. Keith Smith has tried to make this as simple and efficient as possible. Also, we thank Keith for doing this again this year.

Here is the list of Motels in the area that may have space for us.

King Frederic 805/688-5515 (Solvang).
Royal Copenhagen 805/624-6604 (Solvang).
Sanja Cota 805/688-5525 (Santa Ynez).
Andersons (Split Pea) 805/688-3216, (Buelton). This is a special rate to VAA members of $56.00 per night for two nights or $66.00 for one night. To receive this rate you must register before June 27.

Car rental again this year will be through Alpha Car Rental, this is part of the Santa Ynez Air center and is located on the Santa Ynez Airport. To reserve a car call Fran or Sharon at 805/688-2574. We realize this is a repeat of the information in the April letter but we will put it in each issue up to the event month.

Also, the open-air theater in Solvang will have a play✈

FROM THE EDITOR

The dues are still coming in and we have received them from some of the folks that we thought had left the group. Thanks to all of you for being so prompt in sending them in.
Remember, $10.00 for one year per couple.

I visited the Palm Springs Air Museum this past week. Some of you may have already visited it. It opened in November and of

course is still growing. It is a bright, well layed-out exhibit. The volunteers are more than willing to talk and point out the various displays. The aircraft are not roped off, and one can really get close to them. They have a rotating display so I would guess you won't see the same aircraft each time. The Museum if on the Palm Springs Airport on Gene Autrey Trail. It is open daily from 10:00am to 5:00pm. Admission is adults 13-65 $7.50, children 6-12 $3.50; under 5 free. Seniors 65 and older $6.00. Private group tours are available.

While I was there I met a former Flying Tiger Pilot, Roland Sperry. He was shot down over the Kowloon Docks in October 1944 and has written a book, "China Through The Eyes Of A Tiger". He gave me a copy and it is really interesting.

Some of you in the South Bay area may know Mr. Sperry as he lives in Huntington Beach. He has agreed to talk to our group in the future, time permitting.

The San Diego Aerospace Museum is featuring from now until September an exhibit of Lindbergh/Ryan artifacts. This of course is in memory of the record flight and also to let the public know a little of the role played by San Diego in the Lindbergh flight. The exhibit is titled "Flight of the Lone Eagle".

Many of you may be aware of the Clinton proposed General Aviation User Fee. If this is passed we will more than likely pay for every weather briefing, landing, and contact with control towers. The FAA has admitted that some fees will be imposed on GA. I advise you to write your representative and ask him to vote against this change from user taxes to user fees. Lord knows we get precious little for our money as it is.

I wonder how many of you know that the flight by Linda Finch to recreate the flight by Amelia Earhart is not the first one.

Thirty years ago, Ann Holtgren Pellegreno performed the same feat on the 30th anniversary of Earhart's 27,000 mile flight without incident. She also flew a Lockheed Model 10 that had originally been used by a Canadian Airline. After her flight the airplane was purchased by Air Canada and placed in the Museum in Ottawa. Incidentally, her co-pilot on the flight was Major Bill Payne who five years earlier flew the Convair B-58 Hustler from New York to France in three hours, nineteen minutes, forty-four seconds. For this he was awarded the Mackay and Harmon Trophies.

Bill Payne lives in San Marcos, CA and Ann Pellegreno lives in Iowa. She is still an active pilot flying a J-3 Cub, and a one-of-a-kind Fairchild XNQ-1 trainer which was built in 1947 to replace the T-6.

My lovely wife is always looking for things to put in the letter, here are some she found recently.

The FAA has mandated a security program that matches up airline passengers with their bags before they board. Hopefully, they'll have more luck than they do matching them up after the flight.

If the baggage matching program proves successful, they'll start trying to seat insufferably boring passengers next to each other.

In 1923 it took 27 hours to fly from New York to California. What a difference a few years make. Now it only feels like 27 hours.

Again, I ask you to send me articles, pictures, or just general tid-bits for the letter. I promise I will use them at some time. I still have some pictures to run, as soon as they are done I will start using some of the ones you have sent in✈

Santa Yenz, Calif.
11 - 13 July 1997

The Third Annual Leo Gay Memorial Wings 'N Wheels is scheduled for the week-end of 11 - 13 July 1997. If you haven't reserved your rooms, do it now! Then send in the Registration Form on the bottom of this notice.

From past years' experience, we say, "**REGISTER EARLY!**" It is easier on us if you register and later must cancel, rather than waiting until the last minute to register.

We are incentivizing early registration in the hope that things will run smoother. We expect all registrations in **no later than 5 July -- repeat 5 July.** Registrations received after 5 July will be subject to a **$5 per person late registration fee.** All car/airplane ride assignments will be made the week-end of 5/6 July and badges made up shortly thereafter. Any late registrants will have to take "pot luck" on cars and airplanes that might not have already been assigned and will have hand lettered badges.

Like last year, we are asking for more information on the Registration Form. **Please fill it out as completely as you can.** It helps us and may help assure that your desires are better met. Believe us, we are not asking for anything more than we need to assure a smooth operation. We would love to run the whole thing with just your names, as we have to enter all the info into the computer when we get it. We need the relationship of any guests you are registering on your form. This will help us keep families together, if possible. (It is not obvious to us that Jane Jones is the daughter of Bill Smith.) The information required is on both sides of the form -- so be sure to turn it over!

As with last year -- we have half priced tickets for children! Adult registration is $36 per person, children under 12 $18 per person. As in the past, children not requiring any meals are not charged. The registration fee covers the overhead of organizing the meet, providing three meals and a coffee-break snack. If you desire a Wings 'N Wheels t-shirt, be sure to order with your registration -- no guarantee there will be any left-over for sale at the airport!

No telephone registrations will be accepted. However, you may register by FAX if you feel you cannot make the deadline any other way (then send your

---------- TEAR-OFF HERE ----------

I plan to attend the Wings 'N Wheels event for 11 - 13 July. Please **type or print ALL** the following information:

PILOT/DRIVER'S NAME_____
(First) (Last) (Phone No.)

ADDRESS_____
(Street) (City) (State) (ZIP)

CAR/AIRPLANE CLUB AFFILIATION_____ VAA MEMBER _____

If not already a member, would you like to join the Vintage Aeroplane Association? _____ (Add $10 for annual dues)

PLANE/CAR _____
(Make/Model) (Body Style) (Year) (Number of Seats) ("N" No. or Car License No.)

PILOTS: I will fly my passengers SATURDAY ____ SUNDAY ____ BOTH DAYS ____

DRIVERS: I WILL HAVE _____ AUTO SEATS AVAILABLE FOR PASSENGERS ON SATURDAY.

I have reservations at _____ (motel), or plan to stay at _____ (motel)

I volunteer to help at Wings 'N Wheels '76. Call me if you have a job for me. _____ (check)

Wings 'N Wheels T-Shirts Available: Quality T-Shirts with the famous Wings 'N Wheels logo silk-screened in four colors are for sale at $14.00 each. Sizes are **Adult** -- Medium, Large, Extra Large and Extra-Extra Large. If you would rather have the logo on a **sweat-shirt**, the price is $20.00. We are planning to order only enough shirts to cover those ordered on these applications, so to be sure of getting one, fill out the order on the other side and send in your check. In the event you have to cancel and do not want the shirt(s), we will try to sell them at the meet, in which case we will refund your money. Be sure to **state the sizes desired** on your order.

check by mail). The address for registration:

Wings 'N Wheels c/o Keith Smith
5733 Green Meadow Drive Agoura Hills, CA 91301
Phone: (818) 991-9936
FAX: (818) 991-9964

WINGS 'N WHEELS MEET SUMMARY

Those who have not attended Wings 'N Wheels in the past may find answers to the questions they have in the following description of the meet.

Normally, arrival is planned for the afternoon of **Friday** the 11th of July. Drop by the Santa Ynez airport (if you are driving) and pick up your registration package. The package will contain your badges, meal tickets, schedule and indicate who you are riding or flying with. You can chat with other "Wings 'N Wheelers." No program is planned for Friday, you are on your own -- a good time to seek out a nice place to eat in Solvang or nearby. **Car Drivers: Try to make contact with your assigned pilots to see if they need a ride!**

Saturday get up and have breakfast, but not too much, as we have lots of food for you today! Get out to the airport by 0900 to get organized for the car tour which (we hope) will be on the road by 0930. Flyers will have to find their assigned cars and then we are off to parade down the streets of Solvang and then out in the county for a "Sunday drive" like in times of yore. We will stop at designated points of interest and at one stop will partake of Solvang Danish rolls,coffee and juice.

On the road again, we will drive through scenic areas to our noon-time picnic spot. Following the picnic, we will return to town for time to shop, sleep after eating too much, swim, or another trip to the airport for a look at the planes or a flight. In the evening we will again repair to the airport to the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter hangar for happy hour and a barbecue.

Sunday morning will usually dawn damp and foggy, but not to worry! You will get out to the EAA Hanger and have an eye-opening breakfast of pancakes and eggs. By the time you have sweated out the chow line and have finished eating, the fog will be rising and you'll hear the sound of old engines roaring and their props beating the air. It's about time to fly! If you drove in you will have the opportunity to fly with your Saturday guest. Besides flying, you will have lots of photo opportunities as old planes takeoff, circle the field, land and taxi in. In fact the whole week-end is an ideal time to get those pictures, still and video, of old cars, old planes and all ages of people.

Wings & Wheels has been a premier meet for more than 20 years. It was started by **Leo Gay** and until his death in 1995, was his exclusive domain. We, his friends, continue this wonderful idea in loving memory of Leo. You are invited to attend, have fun, and raise a toast to this energetic man who devoted himself in our behalf.

KEEP THIS PART FOR REFERENCE

The following information is requested for car/plane assignments and to make badges -- **please print legibly!**
List only adults or children for whom half-fare tickets are requested -- exclude children for whom meals are not needed.

Passenger Names (First, Last)	Relationship (Indicate relationship if not obvious)	Check for half-fare
_____	_____	
_____	_____	____
_____	_____	____
_____	_____	____
_____	_____	____
_____	_____	____

NUMBER OF **ADULT** TICKETS REQUESTED _____ X $36.00 = _____
NUMBER OF **CHILDREN** TICKETS REQUESTED _____ X $18.00 = _____
NUMBER OF T-SHIRTS___ (SIZES M__L__XL__XXL__) X $14.00 = _____
NUMBER OF SWEAT SHIRTS ___(M__L__XL__XXL__) X $20.00 = _____
LATE REGISTRATION FEE NO. ____ X $ 5.00 = _____
I WANT TO BECOME A VAA MEMBER $10.00 = _____
TOTAL AMOUNT OF MY CHECK _____

Make checks payable to VAA of Southern Calif.

COMING EVENTS

Hey you Ice Cream lovers. Mark June 22 on your calendar. This is the date of the Pot Luck at the Fosselaman's. The time is 4:30pm. We will have more in the June issue✈

BADGES

Badges are available from:

Dick Beagle
N. Tower
Santa Ana, CA 92706

The price is $5.00 each✈

AIRSHOWS AND EVENTS

MAY 1- 4 CAF Air Group One, "Wings Over Gillespie", Gillespie Field, ElCajon

2- 4 Starduster Open House, Oroville,CA

3 50th Anniversary of U.S. Air Force, Chino

4 Ercoupe Owners Fly-in, Upland

10-11 SoCal Aero Fair Fly-In, Chino

16-18 Gathering of Luscombes, Columbia Airport, CA

18 Ercoupe Owners Fly-In, Watsonville, CA

23-25 Watsonville Fly-In

24-25 Worlds Smallest Airshow, Brian Ranch Airport, Llano, CA

30-31 Porterville Moolight Fly-In

JUNE 1 Paso Robles Airshow

2 Ercoupe Owners Fly-In, Santa Monica

6-7 West Coast Antique Fly-In, Merced

7 Air Fair and Open House, Ramona Airport

8 NAS Lemoore, Lemoore, CA

9 Q.B Airshow, Pt. Mugu, CA

92101+1636 01

Mrs. Maggie Davis Life
2001 Pan American Plaza
Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101

MAY 15 1997

Dated Material

William L. Mallory
410 E. Fairview #4
Glendale, CA 91207

Vintage Aeroplane Association Of California Inc.

GENERAL MEETING
GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MAY 16, 7:30PM

VAA Newsletter

Vintage Aeroplane Association Of California, Inc.

President Connie Clark 310/835-2562 **Editor** Bill Mallory 818/242-6394

JUNE 1997

Photo: John and Virginia Clark, Wings and Wheels '96'

VAAC OFFICERS FOR 1997

President	Connie Clark	310/835-2562
Vice President	Don Armstrong	818/241-2425
Secretary	Elaine Forker	818/343-4478
Treasurer/Membership	Bill Mallory 410 E. Fairivew #4 Glendale, CA 91207	818/242-6394
Sergeant-at-Arms	Ceci Stratford	818/842-0005
Activities Committee	Connie Clark Jimmy Green Bill Mallory	
Newsletter Editor	Bill Mallory	
Cookie Chair	Don Armstrong	
Historians	Jim & Kay Fosselman	818/284-8642

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June	**Pot Luck at the Fosselman's, June 22, 4:30 p.m.**
July	**Wings & Wheels, July 11, 12, 13**
August	Pot Luck at Ceci Stratford's, August 17, 4:00 p.m.
September	General Meeting, Glendale Community College, September 19, 7:30 p.m.
October	2nd Annual Weenie Roast, Pat Quinn and Dave Watson, Santa Paula, October 5.
November	General Meeting, Glendale Community College, November 21, 7:30 p.m.
December	Christmas Party, Proud Bird Restaurant, December 6, 6:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

We had such an interesting speaker at our May meeting. Vance Colvig of the Los Angeles County Fire Department told us how they use Helicopters to put out our Southern California forest fires. This was especially interesting since we have also heard about the Super Scooper. It was good to hear about the two different methods. Not only do the Helicopters have many Helispots to fill from — they can take on 360 gallons of water in 1 minute. Vance has made as many as 90 drops in 1 hour when water was close by, and he could make from 120 to 140 landings and takeoffs in one afternoon.

But that is not all that the Helicopter pilots do. They also move in the fire crews, do rescue work, hoist work and swift water rescues. They also have blue water rescue training and equipment. Vance showed us a Video, and one shot showed a rescue taking place with the hoist approaching the Helicopter. Only this was looking straight up from underneath. It made you feel as if you were being hoisted aboard!

We also learned that VAA member Errol Williams, along with a partner, started Aqua Dulce Airport in 1958. That is one of the Helispots used to refill their water tanks.

Hope to see all of you at the Fosselman's Pot Luck. Be sure to give Jim and Kaye a call and tell them what you would like to bring✈

JUNE SOCIAL TO BE AT FOSSELMAN'S

Once again, we get to spend a lovely afternoon with good friends and good food at Jim and Kay Fosselmans. For those of you that have not attended this function, please try and attend; it is one you don't want to miss. The date is Sunday, June 22, at 4:30 p.m. The address: 520 Alahmar St., Alhambra.

Jim and Kay will be providing the entree, and would like us to bring appetizers (if you will be arriving early), and salads and desserts to go with ice cream.

Call them at 818/284-8642 to let them know what you will be bringing besides your appetite✈

IN MEMORIUM

Ginny Clark has passed-on. It was on the evening of May 17th. She and her husband John Clark had recently been attending VAA meetings at Glendale College regularly. Although they have been members for some time, previously they were quite busy with OX-5 Aviation Pioneers, John writing their Newsletter and Ginny helping him in innumerable ways. Ginny was 78, and had been married to John for 55 happy years. We will miss your happy smile Ginny, and our heartfelt sympathy goes to you John✈ (Connie Clark)

WINGS AND WHEELS

If this information looks familiar, it is. This is the last letter prior to Wings and Wheels, July 11-13. In addition to the basic information, we are including some information regarding the things that will be available to us during the event. In addition, there is a Wings and Wheels Registration Form. Please send it to Keith Smith at the address on the form. Do not send it to the editor, as he will just have to mail it to Keith.

The motels in the Santa Ynez area that may still have room for us are:

King Frederik (Solvang) 805/688-5515
Royal Copenhagen (Solvang) 805/688-5561
Sanja Cota (Santa Ynez) 805/688-5525

Andersons (Buelton) 805/688-3216

Andersons has a special rate to VAA members of $56.00 per night for two nights, or $65.00 for one night. However, you must register prior to June 27 to get this rate.

Car rental again will be through Alpha Car Rental. This agency is part of the Santa Ynez Air Center and is located on the Santa Ynez Airport. To reserve a car call Fran or Sharon at 805/688-2574.

PCPA THEATER

The Solvang Festival Theater, an outdoor amphitheater is doing "Brighton Beach Memoirs". This is a Neil Simon autobiographical story which follows a young Brookly boy in 1937 who "thinks he's going to be a writer if things don't work out with the Yankees". A loving portrayal of an American family.

The Theater is located at 420 2nd Street and curtain is at 8:30 Friday evening. Call 805/922-8313 for tickets. There is a service charge, and also a Senior Citizen rate available. There have always been seats available at the door, but they are on the side✈ (Connie Clark)

TRIBUTE TO ELVIS SHOW

Our Wings and Wheels group has been invited once again to attend a "Tribute to Elvis" show on Friday evening, July 11 at 8:00. Since this is a special performance for our group only, it is necessary to RSVP as soon as possible, and no later than June 27. There is a sliding price scale, as they will put on their show for as few as 20 people. There was a good attendance last year, and with 51 or more people attending we will get the lowest price. They will be providing dessert and coffee, and you are even invited to bring your camera. There will also be a presentation of scarves, roses, and Teddy Bears.

Call Roger or Shelly at 800/368-4139 for reservations. The theater is located at the corner of Mission and Alisal, upstairs at Denmarket Square. 1693 Mission Drive - The Terrace Theater.

Group rates depending on number in attendance: 20-30 guests, $20.00 per person; 31-40, $15.00; 41-50, $12.00; and 51-110 guests, $8.00 per person.

If you would like a new place to have dinner, Shelly has sent us a menu from Lintons Restaurant and Lounge. It is located at 1547 Mission Drive, three blocks from the Terrace Theater. They have a variety of entrees from $13.00 to $22.00, and a Smorgasbord for $10.95✈ (Connie Clark)

DUK RIDE

Dick and Kitty Alegre, VAA members and Military Vehicle owners, have given us a special invitation. Dick and Kitty own an amphibious DUK, or is it 5 of them now? And a Sherman Tank, but this invitation concerns the DUK. Every year at Santa Ynez, Dick "swims the DUK" at Lake Cachuma. They have invited us to join them this year. Dick can take about 20 passengers. Above that number can ride if they will drive their own vehicles to the lake, and Dick and crew will make several trips out onto the lake to take everyone interested. It's quite fun to drive down the ramp onto the water. This will be on Saturday afternoon, after the car tour. You won't be able to miss the DUK, big as it is, parked where the car tours form up. Check with Dick or Kitty at the airport as to time. Dick, one of our members wants to know if you have a bilge pump✈ (Connie Clark)

Santa Yenz, Calif.
11 - 13 July 1997

The Third Annual Leo Gay Memorial Wings 'N Wheels is scheduled for the week-end of 11 - 13 July 1997. If you haven't reserved your rooms, do it now! Then send in the Registration Form on the bottom of this notice.

From past years' experience, we say, "**REGISTER EARLY!**" It is easier on us if you register and later must cancel, rather than waiting until the last minute to register.

We are incentivizing early registration in the hope that things will run smoother. We expect all registrations in **no later than 5 July -- repeat 5 July.** Registrations received after 5 July will be subject to a **$5 per person late registration fee.** All car/airplane ride assignments will be made the week-end of 5/6 July and badges made up shortly thereafter. Any late registrants will have to take "pot luck" on cars and airplanes that might not have already been assigned and will have hand lettered badges.

Like last year, we are asking for more information on the Registration Form. **Please fill it out as completely as you can.** It helps us and may help assure that your desires are better met. Believe us, we are not asking for anything more than we need to assure a smooth operation. We would love to run the whole thing with just your names, as we have to enter all the info into the computer when we get it. We need the relationship of any guests you are registering on your form. This will help us keep families together, if possible. (It is not obvious to us that Jane Jones is the daughter of Bill Smith.) The information required is on both sides of the form -- so be sure to turn it over!

As with last year -- we have half priced tickets for children! Adult registration is $36 per person, children under 12 $18 per person. As in the past, children not requiring any meals are not charged. The registration fee covers the overhead of organizing the meet, providing three meals and a coffee-break snack. If you desire a Wings 'N Wheels t-shirt, be sure to order with your registration -- no guarantee there will be any left-over for sale at the airport!

No telephone registrations will be accepted. However, you may register by FAX if you feel you cannot make the deadline any other way (then send your

---------- TEAR-OFF HERE ----------

I plan to attend the Wings 'N Wheels event for 11 - 13 July. Please **type or print ALL** the following information:

PILOT/DRIVER'S NAME_____
(First) (Last) (Phone No.)

ADDRESS_____
(Street) (City) (State) (ZIP)

CAR/AIRPLANE CLUB AFFILIATION_____ VAA MEMBER _____
If not already a member, would you like to join the Vintage Aeroplane Association? _____ (Add $10 for annual dues)

PLANE/CAR _____
(Make/Model) (Body Style) (Year) (Number of Seats) ("N" No. or Car License No.)

PILOTS: I will fly my passengers SATURDAY ____ SUNDAY ____ BOTH DAYS ____

DRIVERS: I WILL HAVE _____ AUTO SEATS AVAILABLE FOR PASSENGERS ON SATURDAY.

I have reservations at _____ (motel), or plan to stay at _____ (motel)
I volunteer to help at Wings 'N Wheels '76. Call me if you have a job for me. _____ (check)

Wings 'N Wheels T-Shirts Available: Quality T-Shirts with the famous Wings 'N Wheels logo silk-screened in four colors are for sale at $14.00 each. Sizes are **Adult** -- Medium, Large, Extra Large and Extra-Extra Large. If you would rather have the logo on a **sweat-shirt**, the price is $20.00. We are planning to order only enough shirts to cover those ordered on these applications, so to be sure of getting one, fill out the order on the other side and send in your check. In the event you have to cancel and do not want the shirt(s), we will try to sell them at the meet, in which case we will refund your money. Be sure to **state the sizes desired** on your order.

check by mail). The address for registration:

Wings 'N Wheels c/o Keith Smith
5733 Green Meadow Drive Agoura Hills, CA 91301
Phone: (818) 991-9936
FAX: (818) 991-9964

WINGS 'N WHEELS MEET SUMMARY

Those who have not attended Wings 'N Wheels in the past may find answers to the questions they have in the following description of the meet.

Normally, arrival is planned for the afternoon of **Friday** the 11th of July. Drop by the Santa Ynez airport (if you are driving) and pick up your registration package. The package will contain your badges, meal tickets, schedule and indicate who you are riding or flying with. You can chat with other "Wings 'N Wheelers." No program is planned for Friday, you are on your own -- a good time to seek out a nice place to eat in Solvang or nearby. **Car Drivers: Try to make contact with your assigned pilots to see if they need a ride!**

Saturday get up and have breakfast, but not too much, as we have lots of food for you today! Get out to the airport by 0900 to get organized for the car tour which (we hope) will be on the road by 0930. Flyers will have to find their assigned cars and then we are off to parade down the streets of Solvang and then out in the county for a "Sunday drive" like in times of yore. We will stop at designated points of interest and at one stop will partake of Solvang Danish rolls,coffee and juice.

On the road again, we will drive through scenic areas to our noon-time picnic spot. Following the picnic, we will return to town for time to shop, sleep after eating too much, swim, or another trip to the airport for a look at the planes or a flight. In the evening we will again repair to the airport to the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter hangar for happy hour and a barbecue.

Sunday morning will usually dawn damp and foggy, but not to worry! You will get out to the EAA Hanger and have an eye-opening breakfast of pancakes and eggs. By the time you have sweated out the chow line and have finished eating, the fog will be rising and you'll hear the sound of old engines roaring and their props beating the air. It's about time to fly! If you drove in you will have the opportunity to fly with your Saturday guest. Besides flying, you will have lots of photo opportunities as old planes takeoff, circle the field, land and taxi in. In fact the whole week-end is an ideal time to get those pictures, still and video, of old cars, old planes and all ages of people.

Wings & Wheels has been a premier meet for more than 20 years. It was started by **Leo Gay** and until his death in 1995, was his exclusive domain. We, his friends, continue this wonderful idea in loving memory of Leo. You are invited to attend, have fun, and raise a toast to this energetic man who devoted himself in our behalf.

KEEP THIS PART FOR REFERENCE

The following information is requested for car/plane assignments and to make badges -- **please print legibly!**
List only adults or children for whom half-fare tickets are requested -- exclude children for whom meals are not needed.

Passenger Names (First, Last)	Relationship (Indicate relationship if not obvious)	Check for half-fare
_____	_____	
_____	_____	____
_____	_____	____
_____	_____	____
_____	_____	____
_____	_____	____
_____	_____	____

NUMBER OF **ADULT** TICKETS REQUESTED _____ X $36.00 = _____
NUMBER OF **CHILDREN** TICKETS REQUESTED _____ X $18.00 = _____
NUMBER OF T-SHIRTS___ (SIZES M__L__XL__XXL__) X $14.00 = _____
NUMBER OF SWEAT SHIRTS ___(M__L__XL__XXL__) X $20.00 = _____
LATE REGISTRATION FEE NO. ____ X $ 5.00 = _____
I WANT TO BECOME A VAA MEMBER $10.00 = _____
TOTAL AMOUNT OF MY CHECK _____

Make checks payable to VAA of Southern Calif.

CONFEDERATE AIR FORCE OPEN HOUSE

The Southern California Wing of the Confederate Air Force will be holding an Open House at Camarillo Airport on the Fourth of July, and also on Labor Day Weekend✈ (Connie Clark)

MECHANICS CLASS FOR PILOTS

Remember to call Ceci Stratford at 818/842-0005 if you are interested in the Mechanics for Pilots class at Glendale College. It will be one evening a week on Tuesday or Wednesday, beginning in August✈ (Connie Clark)

FROM THE EDITOR

If you have recently sent us a check for dues or Wings and Wheels and have not yet received notice from your bank that it has cleared don't worry. The bank we do business with was recently sold to another institution. I have just now received new checks and the endorsement stamp so you should be getting notice on your next statement.

The venerable Chipmunk is alive and well. On May 19, a team of Royal Air Force pilots and crew began a route-proving journey across Europe, Russia, and North America, a trip of 14,000 nm. They are flying two de Havilland Chipmunks.

At the end of the Second World War, when Polish emigre Wsieviod Jakimuik designed the Chipmunk for de Havilland of Canada, no one would have predicted a service life of over 50 years for what, at the time, was seen as a temporary replacement for the pre-War Tiger Moth. However, the manufacturer and other licensed builders produced over 1,200 of these aircraft between 1946 and 1961.

The idea of this flight is to fly two Chipmunks simultaneously across Western Europe to Moscow; to follow the Trans-Siberian Railway to the Russian eastern seaboard; across the Bering Straits to Alaska, through Canada to Toronto and then home across the Northern Atlantic, via Greenland, Iceland, and the Faroe Islands.

The aircraft selected for the flight have been modified slightly, by having an additional fuel tank installed in the rear seat position, and a Global Positioning System installed. The fuel tank when full approximates the weight of a person, about 180 pounds. Since the Gipsy Major 8 engine is notorious for oil consumption, and additional oil ring has been installed on the pistons.

A Britten-Norman Islander is flying with them carrying support equipment etc.

The principal RAF pilot on this trip says, "A lot will depend on luck, but we are well prepared, and it should be fun." By the way, this undertaking is named "Northern Venture". I think it would really be fun.

Don't forget to check your address labels for your dues dates✈

COMING EVENTS

Do we need to tell you. Wings and Wheels is July 11-13. If you have not made your reservation, use the enclosed form to do so. Also don't forget your motel reservations✈

BADGES

Available for $5.00 each from:

Dick Beagle
1417 N. Tower
Santa Ana, CA 92706

92101/1636 01

Mrs. Maggie Davis Life
2001 Pan American Plaza
Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101

Dated Material

William L. Mallory
410 E. Fairview #4
Glendale, CA 91207

Vintage Aeroplane Association (Of California Inc.

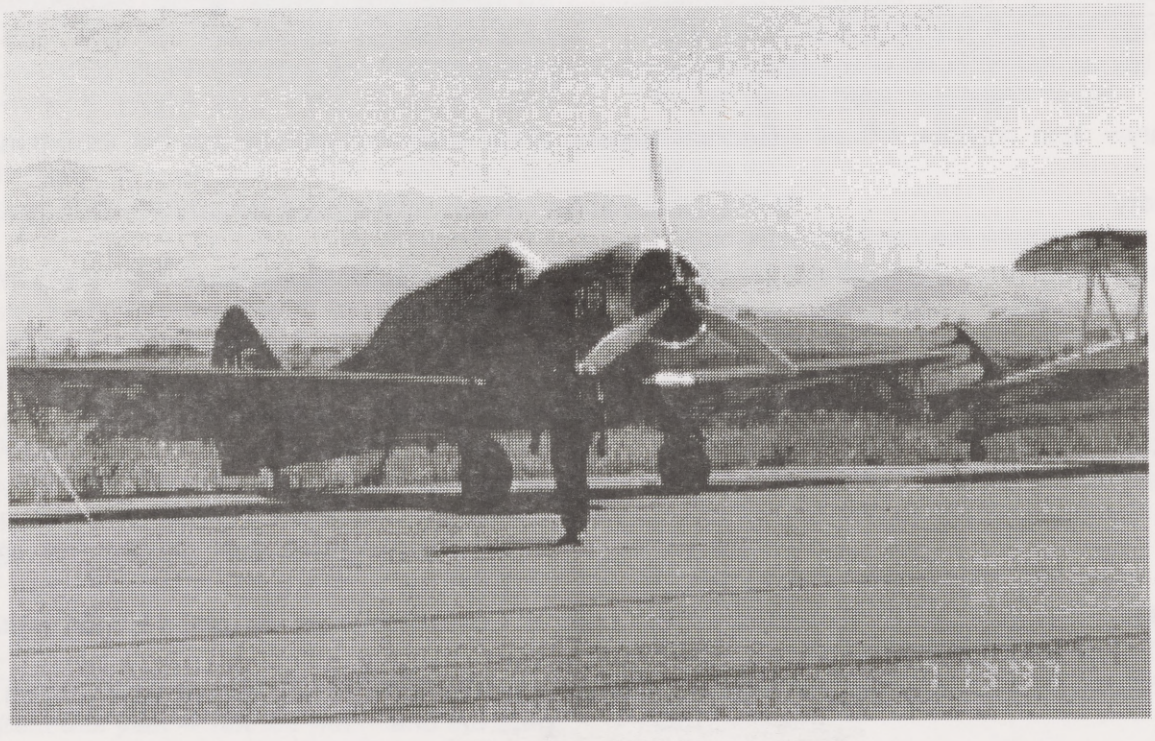
POT LUCK AT THE FOSSELMAN'S
JUNE 22, 4:30 P.M.

VAA Newsletter

Vintage Aeroplane Association Of California, Inc.

President Connie Clark 310/835-2562 **Editor** Bill Mallory 818/242-6394

JULY-AUGUST 1997



VAAC OFFICERS FOR 1997

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Vice President	Don Armstrong	818/241-2425
Secretary	Elaine Forker	818/343-4478
Treasurer/Membership	Bill Mallory 410 E. Fairivew #4 Glendale, CA 91207	818/242-6394
Sergeant-at-Arms	Ceci Stratford	818/842-0005
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Newsletter Editor	Bill Mallory	
Cookie Chair	Don Armstrong	
Historians	Jim & Kay Fosselman	818/284-8642

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December	Christmas Party, Proud Bird Restaurant, December 6, 6:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

We would like to give a big thank you to Jim and Kay Fosselman for our Pot-Luck gathering in June. Their lovely patio and pool area makes such a cozy place to get together. Jim is the perfect bartender, and Kay prepared delicious chicken breasts for the main entree. All the accompanying dishes were good as usual, and the appetizers were delightful. The fruit salad in a watermelon shell decorated with edible flowers was quite beautiful, as well as yummy. The highlight of the evening was of course, the Fosselmans Ice Cream. Where else do you get to try different flavors all at once? And so good.

I am sure that Jim and Kay didn't know what they were getting into when they volunteered as Historians. The job has grown with the return of our big (2 x 3 feet or so) wooden covered photo album. It if filled with pictures from 1978. Some of the members are no longer with us. We really appreciate Don Johnson's good memory for remembering where it might be. We certainly also appreciate Jim and Kay for keeping it for us. However, it is so heavy that it will only be seen at the Pot-Lucks held at their home.

We have also received a collage of black and white photos taken by the late Elda Nielsen and sent in by her husband, Bob Nielsen.

Jim and Kay are requesting pictures taken at our March meeting for our Album. The speaker was Michael Karatsonyi, the former Me 109 pilot with the Royal Hungarian Air Force. Someone took pictures, we just don't know who.

The weather for Wings "N" Wheels was great this year — not too hot — and the early morning haze burned off quickly. If only it could have been that good for those flying to Santa Ynez on Friday, from the North as well as the South. Those of us coming from the South through the murk found a solid cloud cover past Camarillo where some of us went up and flew on top to Santa Ynez, and some went down at the same area to follow the murky coastline. The weather didn't clear until past Santa Barbara Airport, for those of us following the shore line. Then it all became clear and sunny with Santa Ynez Airport just over the hills. That was a beautiful sight.

We had a large group this year — 376 people were served at the EAA Barbecue. There were 106 cars and 40 airplanes. On tour, our lunch stop was at the Pork Palace where we certainly had enough to eat, plus live music. There was also a collection of odds and ends to browse through. One interesting item was a framed gift certificate for Dr. Kivorkian — "To be used one time only". An early poster of an advertisement with Ronald Reagan was interesting. The bad part of the tour was having to cross US 101 to get to the Pork Palace, in cars not intended for todays traffic. It was all done quite safely however, and the good part was that we drove a short distance on old 101. A narrow 2 lane concrete road. How appropriate for the antique cars we were driving in.

We understand that Dick Alegre had a good crowd on the DUK out "swimming" on lake Cachuma, and even made a Sunday morning run as well as the one on Saturday.

The Stearman's and a Bird Dog from Chino made several Fly-Bys during the Saturday evening BBQ as a tribute to Leo Gay on this 3rd Memorial Wings and Wheels Fly-In.

It was good to see old friends, enjoy good food, great cars and aircraft, and if you see Frank Compton, ask him about that great 2 seater Ford Racer that he rode in. What a car!

Be sure to put August 17 and August 23 and 24 on your calendars for Ceci Stratford's Pot-Luck on the 17th, and the Hawthorne Air Faire on the 23rd and 24th. When you

attend the Air Faire, take time to look for the Leo Gay Patio near the FSS. His name is up in big letters, which he truly deserves.

AUGUST POT LUCK TO BE AT CECI STRATFORD'S

We will be treated to another one of those wonderful evenings at the home of Ceci Stratford. As we have said before, this is a must event. Ceci always hosts a wonderful social evening. Remember to set aside Sunday, August 17 at 4:30. Call Ceci at 818/842-0005 to let her know what you will be bringing. Her address is 525 S. Bel Aire Drive, Burbank. A map is enclosed.

HAWTHORNE AIR FAIRE

The Hawthorne Air Faire is coming. The dates are August 23 and 24. If you participated last year, you will be receiving, or probably already have received your pilots registration packet. If not, and you would be interested in displaying your antique or classic aircraft this year, please call Tom Quintana at the Hawthorne City Hall 310/970-7905, or John Culver at 310/539-3640.

Although most of the aircraft, including the military jets will be arriving late Friday afternoon, there will be no Friday evening BBQ this year, as that is when the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce is holding their Air Faire Banquet. There will be a Saturday evening Hangar Party similar to last year with gaming tables and play money once more for participating pilots and families. It is a great Air Faire, lots of military, antique, and classics on display and making fly-by's, and a great party, Don't miss it. (Connie Clark)

FROM THE EDITOR

I hope you all will forgive me for not publishing a July letter. My wife and I sold our house here in Glendale and purchased a new one in Camarillo. With this taking place and the trip to England for the dedication of the American Air Museum in Great Britain, I just didn't have time to get it done. Because of all this I have combined the July and August issues. Also, you will notice that I have combined Connie's messages as well.

First, I would like to comment on Santa Ynez. In my opinion, it was one of the best we have had. Everyone seemed to have a good time. I want to thank everyone that worked so hard to make is a great event. How many of you saw the (race) between the Ford racer and the Stearman? Better yet, did anyone get a good picture. I think this was one of Frank Compton's ideas.

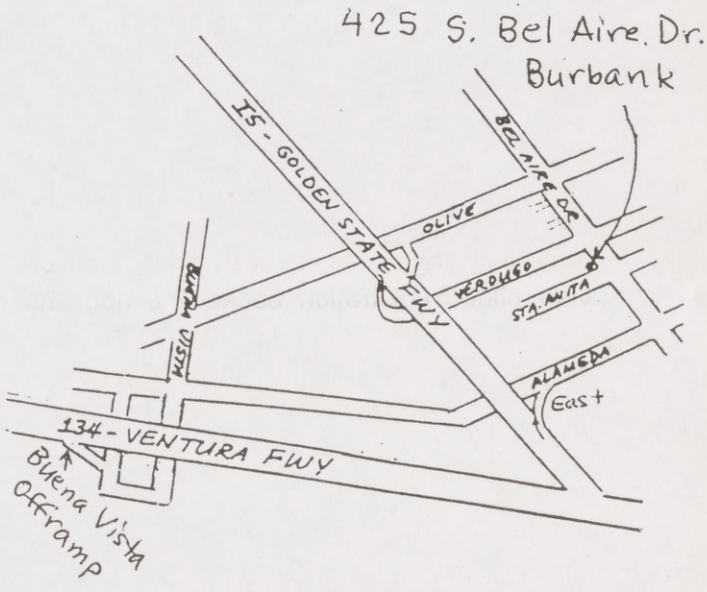
My short trip to England for the Dedication of the Museum was just that, too short but wonderful. The weather was in the low 60's all the time with drizzle and rain most every day.

We assembled at Duxford on August 1 for the official opening by Her Majesty The Queen. It had rained off and on all day, at times quite hard. We had a super lunch in Hangar 5 and waited until the appointed hour, 2:00 pm. Seats were set up in front of the glass end of the structure, in the rain. As the dedication time approached, the rain stopped and we actually had a brief period of sunshine. Many of us think Jimmy Doolittle and Jimmy Stewart must have put in a good word for this weather break. After a brief talk by Lord Bramall, Sheila Widnall, and Charleton Heston, Her Majesty declared the museum officially dedicated. As she pronounced it open, a B-17, P-47 and two P-51's made a low, slow fly-by. They then came back and put on a little airshow. Shortly after that a Hurricane and Spitfire put on a flying display.

I must tell you it was touching. As the national anthems of both nations were played, and after each speech, there were not many dry eyes. To say I was moved is an understatement. The Queen toured the museum for about an hour and then it was open to all the founding members. What a wonderful, glorious tribute to all of those that have given their all, those that have served and those that are serving and will serve in the Air Force. I took a few pictures and will print them if they are any good. I will tell you, it is not conducive to picture taking since it is relatively small for all that is in it. My recommendation, if you go to England, go to Duxford and tour the American Air Museum.

I met many of those that served in the Army Air Corps in WWII and most of them were more than happy to share their stories. One in particular, Moises (Wally) Hernandez flew 35 missions as a waist gunner on a B-17 and is one of the Curators of the Patton Museum and knew Leo Gay quite well. Small world.

At any rate we had a good time, ate some good food, and drank lots and lots of Bitters. This dedication tour was one of the high points in my life.



COMING EVENTS

Our September event will be the General Meeting at Glendale Community College on September 19, at 7:30 pm. Please try and make this after summer get together.

BADGES

For those of you that need a badge, you may obtain one for $5.00 each from:

Dick Beagle
1417 N. Tower
Santa Ana, CA 92706

92101+1636

Mrs. Maggie Davis Life
2001 Pan American Plaza
Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101

Dated Material

William L. Mallory
410 E. Fairview #4
Glendale, CA 91207

Vintage Aeroplane Association of California Inc.

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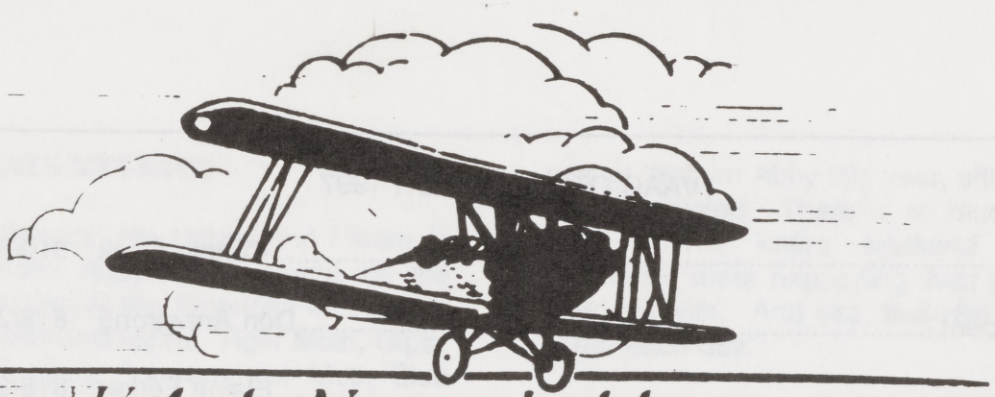

VAA Newsletter

Vintage Aeroplane Association Of California, Inc.

President Connie Clark 310/835-2562 **Editor** Bill Mallory 805/389-2902

SEPTEMBER 1997

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING AT GLENDALE COLLEGE SEPTEMBER 19, 7:30 PM

I agree with Connie, where did the summer go? We are planning on an interesting speaker for the general meeting. Also, this meeting is the traditional meeting for planning the next years events. Please try and attend, we miss seeing your smiling faces.

SPEAKER - JAN WOOD

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Vice President	Don Armstrong	818/241-2425
Secretary	Elaine Forker	818/343-4478
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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

This August, my Hubby and I went to Woburn Abby with several of the members of the American Moth Club. As in DeHavilland Moths, Tiger Moth, Gipsy Moth etc. Jerry Schwam, our Moth Club Pres., made sure we were noticed. He brought shirts for all of us that stated, "Yanks to Woburn", with the American Flag and the British Flag. Woburn Abby is a fly-in of DeHavilland Moths only. Well, they did allow a couple of Stampes and a Chipmunk, which after all has a Gipsy Major engine, but they made them park out in the south 40, or at least a good distance from the rest of the aircraft.

There must have been at least 40 Tiger Moths there. So many that I didn't think to count them. There was only 1 Dragon, the only one Airworthy in England, which Ed and I got to ride in. It was so fun to take off and land on grass. There were 6 Gipsy Moths, 3 Dragon Rapides, and 1 Dragon Fly. The same one that was flown across the Atlantic to Oshkosh, and then home again.

I think there were 4 Fox Moths, one of which Club member Dave Watson got a flight in. Lars and Barbara de Jounge were also there. They even have their own aircraft in England, a Saab Safire that we saw at White Waltham. While we were visiting at White Waltham airport before the Woburn weekend, someone with an American registry aircraft was looking for an American IA, so would you believe it, Ed licensed an aircraft while we were there.

Back in the 1920's there was a racing aircraft called a DH 71 Tiger Moth. Not the biplane that we are familiar with, but a very small, low wing aircraft. There are not even full drawings for this airplane, but would you believe it, two separate people, one in England and one in New York decided to build one, not knowing of each others intentions. The one in New York made it to Oshkosh last year, and the one in England was at Woburn Abby this year, although not fully completed. There is so much history there. The entire weekend was so wonderful, more happening than you could keep up with. And yes, they did serve us "Tea" each day.

Saturday evening we had our Banquet at the Abby, which was so beautiful with its sculptures and paintings. Upon entering, everyone was offered a glass of Sherry. The call to dinner was so British. And at our tables I enjoyed giving a toast to the Queen. There was a wonderful band, playing 30's and 40's music, and a dance floor. At our table we had a fellow from South Africa, a couple from France, two Dutchmen, plus the Englishmen. The accents were wonderful. One English woman told Ed she liked his accent.

Unlike the rains that Bill Mallory had, we were there during a heat wave. We had wanted to go to the Duxford Museum opening as well, but just couldn't manage it all.

We missed Ceci Stratford's Pot-Luck too, which I'm sure was as much fun as usual. We're looking forward to seeing all of you at our first meeting after the summer. How did it go by so quickly?

1929 GIPSY MOTH

On August 21st, Thursday, two days before the Hawthorne Air Faire, the Gipsy Moth that Ed Clark has been restoring for the last 15 years or so, got its airworthiness certificate. The first flight was Friday, and then she was taxied over to the display line for the Hawthorne Air Faire, right next to our SeaBee. For all the years I helped to restore this aircraft, I always knew it was for a customer and it was just something I wanted to get finished. But the BIG PUSH during the last 4 months or so, and seeing it come together slowly, first with the engine installed and then the newly

made cowlings put on, then the trip to the airport, and having the wings and tailfeathers installed, well she is just beautiful. And I just want to hug her and say "You can't go". But by the time you read this, she will be with her new owner in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

For the short time we had her here, many people came to see her, and as usual, there are a few things that have to be made right. So I can't even tell you about my first ride in her yet. But Ed flew her beautifully, landing just as well as he always did when he owned her, before the accident which happened while she was being flown for the movie "Abbot and Costello the Keystone Cops". Ed was not flying her at the time of the accident, he and Hank Coffin had been taking turns, and it was Hank that stalled her our and ran right into a telephone pole. Fortunately, Hank was not injured.

After the first flight, I asked Ed how she flew. He said, "Just like a Moth". (Connie Clark)

HAWTHORNE AIR FAIRE

The Air Faire was a lot of fun this year as usual, even with the FAA's attempts to make it otherwise. Every year we say shy do we put up with this, but every year we go back again to enjoy a great show and see our friends. Including newly made friends driving cars that we met at Santa Ynez. One of the FAA's new regulations was 1000 feet for fly-bys instead of 500 feet, (you could almost see the aircraft). Someone figured out that touch and go's are legal, so we did see a few aircraft flying up close. Including the N9M-Flying Wing, piloted by Ron Hackworth. He says its like a sauna in there on hot days.

There was no Friday night BBQ this year, but there were lots of people at the airfield never-the-less, to see the F-18 Hornet arrive And what a show it did put on. Incredible fly-bys! And we also discovered that Nats Restaurant on the field was having its own BBQ. Good food to. The Saturday night "Mash" hangar party with the gambling tables and paper money was fun as ever, although the prizes were given out so late that most everyone had already left — including us. Actually, they did move the time up, announced just as we had purposely lost all of our paper money. That was what was turned in for tickets to try for the prizes. So we had nothing to turn in. I'm sure the people left won great items. There should have been prizes for the best costumes too, and Dick and Kitty Alegre would have won it for sure. Dick was swathed in bandages, over torn clothing, with the most realistic looking blood! Kitty was in fatigues, and was Dick's nurse, complete with stethoscope. A fun weekend as usual, and especially fun for us as we debuted the Gipsy Moth. (Connie Clark)

SPLASH-IN

Many of you surely saw the item on TV News about a Banner towing airplane going into the water off of Palos Verdes. I wonder how many of you knew that it was our own club member, Mike Walsh. The way he started doing banner towing is a whole other story, but the fact is, that he did. He had made several flights in the Cessna 150, and was quite familiar with the process of switching fuel tanks, including the auxiliary tank. So on the fateful day, he switched to auxiliary, and the engine died. He turned all tanks back on, but the propeller had stopped, which you probably all know means the engine will not restart itself in the air. You need the starter. So on his way down from only 1000 feet above the ocean, towing a big heavy banner, you don't have a lot of time, but Mike was grinding away at that starter, trying to restart.

We had been out of town, and had not heard the news, and I was sure that Mike was going to say at the last moment, the engine started. Even when he said he felt the banner hit the ocean. But no. I couldn't

believe it when, still cranking the starter, he felt the tail of the airplane hit the water. Keeping the banner attached slowed down his impact with the water and kept him from flipping over, but impact he did, and the windshield shattered and cut his face.

Then he thought "I've got to get out of here." Next he felt, "I'm trapped." "Oh yes, the seat belt." Half way out of the plane, was "Oh yes, the Head Phones". As soon as he was out, (standing on what, Mike?) He thought "My wallet, by GPS, my Cell Phone." So he climbed back inside. Next he realized, this is dumb, this airplane is sinking. As he got out again, he was hit in the head with the tail of the airplane as it went down. So coming up to the surface, he was never so glad to see the fellows in a boat which picked him up immediately and said "Having a bad day, mon?"

They also offered him a beer — and who wouldn't want one after all that, but Mike was rational enough to realize he shouldn't until he talked to the FAA

Shortly after the incident, Mike and his Stearman were at Mirimar NAS, and the Navy pilots ripped his name tag off his flight suit, and substituted one that said "Flipper".

Oh yes, they retrieved the Cessna, his wallet was dried out, but his GPS and Cell Phone have had it! (Connie Clark)

FLY-OUT

We have been talking about this for some time, but now Jimmy Green has come to our rescue and actually planned a flight to Oceana, on October 19th. This is for those of you who would like to fly somewhere for a fun outing together, and remember to invite guests. More in the next newsletter.

SANTA PAULA FLY-IN

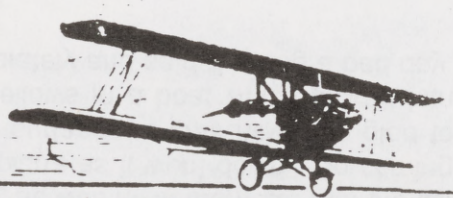
We have again been invited to an Open House at Santa Paula airport. This will be hosted by three of our member and their wives; Pat Quinn, Dave Watson, and John Richards. This is an exciting event and one that you will want to attend for sure. The open house will be from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Weenie Roast will take place from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. in a hangar shared by Pat and Dave. The hangar is located on Stearman Taxiway which is next to the car gate, west of the restaurant. You can identify it by the presence of Pat's yellow and black Bucker Jungmann and Dave's red, black, and silver Tiger Moth. The date is October 5th.

We will need reservations for this event by September 28th. Call Connie at 310/835-2562, leave a message if she is not home.

FROM THE EDITOR

Please forgive me for changing the format of this letter. Dorothea and I have just moved into our new house in Camarillo and I can't find anything. This includes VAA stuff like pictures, and names of new members to introduce. I promise to have my act together for the next issue. Also, I must use a new printer so time is short on getting all of this ready. Please bear with me.

I hope that you can attend the meeting at Glendale College on the 19th, and the Weenie Roast at Santa Paula. I always enjoy these meetings and social events.



Vintage Aeroplane Association Of California Inc.

William L. Mallory
1376 Saturn Ave.
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Mrs. Maggie Davis Life
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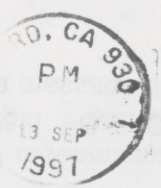

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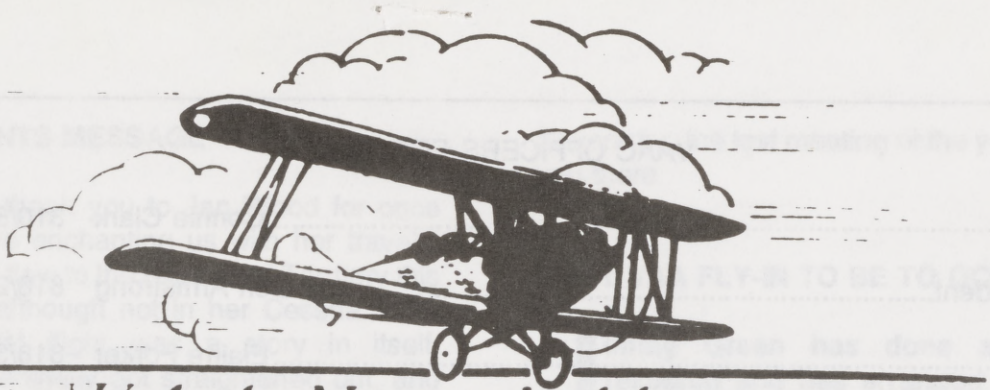

VAA Newsletter

Vintage Aeroplane Association Of California, Inc.

President Connie Clark 310/835-2562 **Editor** Bill Mallory 805/389-2902

OCTOBER 1997

VAAC OFFICERS FOR 1997

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Vice President	Don Armstrong	818/241-2425
Secretary	Elaine Forker	818/343-4478
Treasurer/Membership	Bill Mallory 1376 Saturn Ave., Camarillo, CA 93010	805/389-2902
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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

A big thank you to Jan Wood for once more enchanting us with her travels. Jan flew to the Northwest Territory this summer, although not in her Cessna. Her Commercial flight was a story in itself, however, it finally got straightened out, and Jan found herself in her intended destination of Inuvik. It was a small Northwest Territory town where Jan said it was Igloo everything, including Igloo B&B. She saw that the locals needed to shovel snow to melt for tea water, since the water from their reservoir was brown.

She also traveled to Yellowknife where the natives were more Indian than Eskimo. They don't feel that time is important — it's perfectly okay to be two hours late.

Jan just had to take some flight time in a Float Plane in Yellowknife and insisted that it include a "beaching". Jan, your "body language" was as fun as your description of how the instructor got out of the airplane and stood on the float to direct you left and right around boulders to land up against a rock mountain!

Arriving home, she gave a "Northwest Party". Everyone had to drink from Mason jars and had appetizers from clean cat food cans. The food included cans of beans, peas and corn heated in their cans with the lids left on for handles and eaten on pie tins. Washing their own dishes after each course as the natives do. Then everyone created "Rock People", a native tradition. Since they have no wood they use rocks. The natives use these Rock People to hep herd Caribou and Reindeer, plus signposts for the people. She enjoyed the adventure so much that she intends to fly through Canada in her Cessna from West to East next year. Thanks again Jan for a very interesting evening.

We hope many of you will be flying to Oceano this month for our first Fly-Out together. And remember our meeting in November, the last meeting of the year. See you there.

FIRST VAA FLY-IN TO BE TO OCEANO

Jimmy Green has done a lot of research and has arranged the first VAA fly in. It will be to Oceano airport in Arroyo Grande, near Pismo Beach on October 19. He says he hopes we can all join in the spirit of this trip which is to fill our empty seats with friends who we know from other phases of our life and who would enjoy an airplane ride and some exposure to the world of flying for fun.

Jimmy suggests that we meet there at noon and then as a group decide what you want to do, and where you want to eat.

I am putting in the navigational tips Jimmy sent me.

From the South side of LAX: Use the offshore route or the SUAS @ 4500' to SMO - CMA - SMX - L52.

From the Southeast side of the LAX approach: Maintain below 2500' to AMTRA INT and then SMO - CMA - SMX - L52.

From the San Fernando Valley go to CMA - SMX - L52.

Of course, all you GPS users can fly more direct and the valleyites have a 3000' restriction instead of a 2500'. In addition to these tips, Jimmy says, by all means do you own flight planning and navigating. In the event the weather will not permit landing at Oceano, Santa Maria is the alternate.

So that we will have an idea of who is interested in this event, please give Conne Clark a call if you plan to go. Phone number is 310/835-2562

AROUND THE WORLD ALBATROSS

What a happy surprise it was to see a very special Albatross at the Clear Lake Sea Plane Splash-In. It was backed up to the bank amongst the rushes. This Sea Plane belongs to Reid Dennis, and he and his aircraft flew completely around the world along with Linda Finch in her Lockheed Electra as she recreated Amelia Earharts last flight. Not only did Mr. Dennis give a short talk about the trip, he invited everyone present to go aboard the Albatross. It is truly gorgeous, with a hardwood floor, leather seats, some of which can make a dinette, and a full galley. (Kitchen, that is) Also, a bathroom with a shower. And of course the instrument panel and Navigational equipment were very impressive.

One story that Reid Dennis told us was about a night flight with an ETA of 7:00 AM. Sorry I forgot what country it was, however, the navigator in Linda Finch's aircraft called Reid and asked him his time of arrival at the airport. Reid replied 7:00 AM. The navigator asked "What time is dawn?" With all his fancy equipment, Reid checked and said 7:04. The navigator said "If you get there that early you will be charged a runway lights charge." Reid said "That's okay, Linda is paying for everything". Then Linda came on the radio saying "Reid, slow down!" The cost would have been from $800.00 to $1,000.00.

Coming home from Hawaii also was interesting. Flight Control told Reid to climb to 5000'. Reid stated that the aircraft was too heavy to climb above 1500'. Then he was told he couldn't fly at night below 5000'. In other words, there was no way he could fly home since this flight would take about 13.9 hours, many of them at night. Well, the flight was already under way, and Reid is quite a diplomate and convinced the authorities that those rules were written after aircraft such as the Albatross were flying. He completed his flight with no problems. (Connie Clark)

CARMEL VALLEY VINTAGE AIRPORT

We have had information and letters in the past from Lars de Jounge on his new home airport, Carmel Valley Vintage. And now we have a first hand look at the area, as Ed Clark was recently there to license Lars and Barbara's two antique aircraft. And of course, I went along for the fun of it. And what an incredible area it is. Barbara and I went hiking at Point Lobos with its beautiful coastline. Then in a few minutes driving we were in the redwoods for a hike up to a waterfall. Also nearby was the famous 17 Mile Drive. And of course, Carmel and Monterey. The nearby Carmel Village is charming. We also saw the plans for the homes and hangars to be built on the airport, which would blend well with the country atmosphere. Anyone interested in this great life style should give Lars a call at 408/659-0860. (Conne Clark)

FROM THE EDITOR

Well, we are getting settled into the new house, I am spending some time at the Camarillo Airport with some old friends that I used to see only once in a while. There is really a lot going on at this airport. Many of you visit here occasionally as I see you at the Airport Restaurant on Saturday or Sunday.

I also want to thank Jan Wood for her talk. Jan, you are really an inspiration anda good friend of VAA.

For those of you that did not make the trek or flight to Santa Paula, you missed a real treat. There were lots and lots of airplanes to look at, sit in and touch. And of course, the folks there were as friendly and obliging as ever. The weather was great, and the

friends were good. It was good seeing some of the faces we don't see too often, and to talk with the people attached to the faces to find out what they have been doing.

I understand that members Brian and Mary Goulding from England were here for a while and visited Ceci Stratford and had lunch with Connie and Ed Clark. For those of you that don't know, Brian is an expert on the Lancaster and has written a number of books about this WWII bomber.

Also, Ceci can you tell us at the next meeting about your trip to Midland, TX and the ride down and back in the Camarillo based Martin 404? It might be a nice thing to do at each meeting to have a short show and tell so members can fill us in on what they have been doing.

Putting on my membership hat for a minute. We can all take a lesson from Don Armstrong as far as recruiting new members. I have watched him in action, he tells them of the VAA, what we do, when we do it and then invites them to attend a function. Thanks Don for all your good work. Due to those of you that have brought in new members, our membership is up slightly from this time last year. Let's all get out and invite prospective members. The proposed Oceano fly-in is a good way to get individuals interested in the group.

Putting on the treasurers hat. We are in pretty good shape financially. I will have a report for you at the next general meeting. Remember, your dues are what keeps us going. Look at your label and see if you still owe dues for the current year, and when you are due to pay.

Maggie McCurdy appreciates the $50.00 donation voted on at the last meeting. For those of you that were not at the meeting. Maggie is a friend of mine that rescues Greyhound dogs from Arizona and flys them to good homes. She does this all with a Beechcraft and donations from the public.

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING AT GLENDALE COLLEGE

Our next meeting will be November 21, at 7:30pm. I hope that I can have one of the first Americans to volunteer to fly for Israel and help form the modern Israeli Air Force as our speaker. More in the next letter.

Remember, we will also have our annual election of officers. If you don't show up, you may become an officer.

NEW MEMBERS

This is a listing of new members I know about since Wings and Wheels. If I have missed any I apologize.

Jack Davis, San Marino
Dave Cleveland, Rancho Palos Verdes
Joseph and Sue Eatherton, La Crescenta
Sandra Killion, Santa Barbara
Dennis and Jenine Ricotta, Shadow Hills

REMINDER

We are rapidly approaching December and the time for our Christmas Party. It is early this year and we don't want you to miss it. Circle December 6 on your schedules.

Cover Photo: The beautiful Hurricane based at Duxford and involved in the fly-by for the dedication of the American Air Museum in England. (Bill Mallory)

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I can hardly believe how close the Holidays are. Of course, having to write this in advance when I am still looking froward to Halloween, makes it feel so. However, I must tell you that this is your first and last notice for our Christmas party. The date in December is so early, and the reservations are needed even earlier, so we will not have time for another newsletter.

So read the notice and get your RSVP's in early. This is always a warm, sparkling party. And the Proud Bird is planning to install even more of those incredible full size fiberglass aircraft that are on display outside of the view windows. And now in front of the restaurant as well. What a sight as you come in the driveway! They weren't sure the new ones would be there by Christmas time, but we'll see. The ones they do have certainly add to the surroundings, not to mention the real live aircraft on final for LAX. So some join us and enjoy it all.

This is also a good time of the year to remember Marge and Murray Casady, all of the years that they wrote our Newsletter, and all of the Christmas parties they did the decorating for, as well as buying all the gifts for door prizes. We certainly appreciate all the work you did Marge. Thank you.

And speaking of gifts, we would like each woman to bring a gift for a woman, and each man a gift for a man, minimum $5.00, for the gift exchange, to make the evening even more marry.

We are also going to have such an interesting speaker this month. We are also going to have election of Officers. So as Bill mentioned, be sure to come so you won't get elected without your approval.

And for those of you too far away to attend our meetings, I would like to wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving.

NOVEMBER MEETING AT GLENDALE COLLEGE

My worst fears have finally come true. I had a speaker (most interesting one I might add) scheduled for some time now. Just as this letter was going to print, he called and said he had to leave the country on business and would not be back until early next month.

I will try to get Tom Morganfeld, Chief Test Pilot for Lockheed-Martin. He was the principal Test Pilot on the YF-22, and now is involved in the Stealth Fighter. I think I can get him.

Regardless, we must have our annual election of officers and I know Ceci might want to add to her story about the Martin and her trip in it.

Don't forget, November 21, 7:30 p.m. at Glendale College.

OCEANO

I would like to give a big thanks to Jimmy Green for organizing the Oceano Fly-out. This is something we've been wanting to do for some time now, and I can't believe how much fun it was. What we didn't know was that Tom, the very friendly airport manager, kept a fleet of 25 bicycles for the use of pilots — for free. Upon hearing this, one of our group offered to rent them for only $2.00 an hour to those who hadn't heard the free deal. A little capitalism at work! Anyway, all of the bicycles had their rims painted green, and we were advised to pre-flight them carefully, as they were all yard sale and Goodwill type bikes. And all different, as you can imagine. Everyone made a choice, and off we went, circling the parking lot, waiting for everyone to join up. Or were we just seeing if we could still ride one of those things? Then over a wooden bridge, and 2 blocks to town and a Fish and

Chips restaurant with an outdoor patio.

We had 4 airplanes and 12 people participating and though it would have been fun to see more of you, we rather overwhelmed the Fish and Chips place as it was. Plus, the remaining bicycles that we had the use of, left one fellow on a childs size bike. Was that you, Bill Thibault, or Captain Ron? And I saw Don Noonan on a bike with no brakes. Ceci Stratford and Carol Lawing and I got bikes with childs seats. Great spot for carrying purses. Jimmy and Billie Green and guests wisely decided to walk, but I'm sure it wasn't nearly as much fun.

We also biked to the beach, another 2 blocks, and watched the people and the surf and an incredible amount of pick-ups and campers driving up from the beach with all sorts of dirt bikes, quads, and dune buggies. Later, on take off, I counted at least 16 Motor Homes and all their toys camped out on the beach.

As we reluctantly returned our bicycles to the airport, we brought all 4 airplanes together and took lots of pictures of the group. We also met a fellow building a 3/4 scale Jenny, who invited us to look over his project.

It was a great outing, and we shall have more of these to exotic places! Jimmy Green feels that we should invite our non-flying friends who are not afraid to fly, which is a very worthwhile endeavor. But we also have club members without aircraft who would also like to fly. Perhaps we should set up a number that both pilots with spare seats, and members who wish to fly, could call and see what we can arrange.

At the moment, we feel we will do this once every 3 months, weather permitting. And going to some desert locations in the cooler months. If you have any suggestions for a special destination, let Jimmy Green know.
(Connie Clark)

A NOSTALGIC TRIP

Early Friday morning (October 3) 19 of us boarded a beautifully restored 1952 Martin 404 airliner, on our way to Midland, Texas. The 404 is owned by "Airliners Of America", a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the history of airlines. Jeff Whitesell is the founder of this group which purchased the airplane in 1994, the first in a series of airliners to be restored, displayed and flown. (As a matter of fact, Jeff and his father actually owned and flew this airplane in the 60's as part of his father's charter flying company!) This 404 was modified to a corporate interior and seats 20 people. Its walls have beautiful wood paneling, with 50's era sconces and lamps. Wood tables fold out for playing cards or eating. Seats are either comfortable couches or recliner chairs, complete with matching ottomans to ease the weary feet. A galley and bars throughout the airplane allow for satisfying meals and beverages. Mike (Waypoint Cafe, Camarillo Airport) prepared sandwiches and a fruit tray for all of us. These were served by Caroline, who dressed up in a 50's flight attendant uniform, complete with pillbox hat. What could have been more fun?

Our trip was to attend the Confederate Air Force "Airsho '97" in Midland. Most of the 19 flying to the air show are members of the Southern California Wing of the CAF. The others are members of Jeff's group "Airliners of America". All are aficionados of old airplanes and were excited not only to fly in one, but to see them displayed and flying at the airshow. The CAF is known for its World War II demonstration-flying aircraft from various theaters and periods of the war (trainers, such as T-6's, PT-22's, PT-13s; Navy and Air Force fighters, and bombers such as B-25s, B-17s, and a B-29; Zeros, transports, etc.), complete with bombs and lots of noise and smoke! The airshow was topped off with the flight of the Thunderbirds both Saturday and Sunday.

The SoCal Wing of the CAF flew its C-46, SNJ and F8F Bearcat to Midland for the show. All got in lots of flying. Some of the group volunteered in various functions. I got to drive a golf cart around the display area offering water and "Power Ade" to the crews and workers. (That's one of the best jobs. We get to go almost anywhere on the flight line and I met lot of folks). Of course, there are lots of parties. The best one was under the wing of the C-46 Friday night. About 30 of us gathered with food and drink and watched Mother Nature do her Texas thing--lightening, heavy rain, dramatic clouds. What a perfect place to be--ole' China Doll protected us very nicely.

On the flight back on Monday, we flew formation with a B-17, Albatross and B-25, doing photo shoots by Guadalupe Peak (east of El Paso). It was a perfect backdrop. We landed at Mesa, Arizona to gas up and face the headwinds flying back to SoCal. Naturally, we were pampered by Caroline, our "stewardess", with sandwiches, fruit and beverages. We all sported our new Airliners of America T-shirts.

What a memorable flight and weekend. Anyone interested in more information about "Airliners of America" can call Jeff at (805)388-8618 or about the CAF can call the CAF hangar at (805)482-0064 or Ceci at (818)842-0005. (Ceci Stratford)

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Christmas party this year once more, with cheers from our members, will be held at the Proud Bird Restaurant, at 11022 Aviation Boulevard, Los Angeles, near the Los Angeles Airport. The date is Saturday, December 6, at 6:00 p.m. The menu this year will be Marinated Sirloin Steak, the price will be $25.00 per person. Remember, this is the only notice you will receive, so be sure to get your reservations in by Saturday, November 29, or at the latest by Sunday, November 30. Call Bill Mallory at 805/389-2902. Also, remember to bring a gift for the gift exchange. Gals bring a gals gift, guys for guys — $5.00 minimum. This is always a special party, hope to see lots of you there.

FROM THE EDITOR

I am delighted that our fly-out did come about. This may be a good way to encourage new members.

Also, we will be having the election of officers for the coming year. As we meet to elect these officers, let's reflect on the VAA and think of ways we can make it better, and of ways to make it grow.

Don Armstrong has been a great help this year in getting speakers. I would like your input and help in locating individuals that can share with us. Also, I still need your contributions for the letter, pictures, articles, etc.

If you are coming to the meeting at GCC on November 21, you could turn in your reservations and checks for the Christmas Party.

Ceci sent a nice picture of the Martin 404 she flew to Midland in. I don't know if it will be in this letter or not. I am having to send it to a different printer, and he said he may be able to do it, or maybe not. I will not know until I pick up the finished product. So If it is here, thanks Ceci, if not, I will put it in the next issue. Sorry for this, but publishing time is short for this issue.

92101-1636

Mrs. Maggie Davis Life
2001 Pan American Plaza
Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101

Dated Material

William L. Mallory
1376 Saturn Ave.
Camarillo, CA 93010

Vintage Aeroplane Association Of California Inc.

GENERAL MEETING
GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NOVEMBER 21, 7:30 P.M.